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TODAY IN arab news

Trade groups arrive

Two trade missions, one from Britain and one from Belgium are arriving in Jeddah today. Both groups plan to promote the products manufactured in their countries. — Page 2

PLO urged to recognize Israel

At a news conference after two days of talks, French President Francois Mitterrand and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak call on the Palestine Liberation Organization to recognize Israel as a crucial step toward a solution of the Middle East crisis. — Page 3

U.S. economy

Paul Volcker, chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board, predicts that 1983 will be a year of recovery from economic recession, the worst since the 1930s. — Page 5

Islam in perspective

Today's commentary differentiates between those who derive their pleasures, values and concepts from Allah and those who find the life of this world beautiful and are enslaved by its values and its trivialities. And questions on bank interest and its uses and restrictions on how we dress for prayers are answered in *Our Dialogue*. — Page 7

Records shattered

The Asian Games track and field event got off to a colorful start with six records being rewritten in six events in New Delhi. Kuwait got past Iraq in style in the soccer event to qualify for the quarterfinals, Iraq also made the grade. — Page 9

Sino-Soviet ties

Responding to Soviet overtures for better relations, Communist China calls on Moscow to make new efforts to remove obstacles to improve ties. — Page 12

5 killed, 32 hurt in Kabul blasts

ISLAMABAD, Nov. 25 (AP) — Five persons died and 32 others were seriously wounded in two powerful bomb blasts in central Kabul's seven story Seraf Sadeq building, home of many ruling Khalq and Parcham party members, Radio Kabul reported Thursday.

The explosions, in the modern Pamiar area, the city's cinema house Wednesday night also gutted 44 shops and made "hundreds homeless", the broadcast said.

The radio said that the explosions were "acts of sabotage" set off by "enemies of the regime and foreign agents", opposing the Marxist revolution in Afghanistan.

The blasts follow a series of bomb explosions in Kabul's restaurants earlier this month and destruction of the city's highest building. The official Afghan media said the previous bomb blasts left at least 16 killed and 27 wounded.

OAU in complete disarray

TRIPOLI, Nov. 25 (AP) — The Organization of African Unity was in disarray Thursday following the Chad government's rejection of a proposal requiring its "voluntary" absence from a scheduled OAU summit meeting in the Libyan capital.

The summit has been blocked by a group of 17 moderate African countries — enough to prevent a quorum — boycotting the meeting to protest a Libyan veto against a delegation from the Chad government of President Hissene Habre.

Delegates from Sierra Leone, Mauritius, Zaire and Congo told reporters Habre's ejection of a proposed compromise apparently ended all hope of convening the summit in Tripoli.

"The question is where does the OAU go from here," said one delegation member requesting anonymity.

But a Nigerian official said Nigerian President Shehu Shagari was continuing efforts to persuade Habre to change his mind.

In Paris, Habre's foreign minister, Idriss Miskine, announced that Chad "categorically rejected" the compromise proposal put forward late Wednesday by a meeting of 22

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Italians bust arms racket to Mideast

VALESE, Nov. 25 (Agencies) — Police have cracked a smuggling gang that exported huge quantities of arms to Middle East countries in exchange for narcotics, law enforcement authorities reported Wednesday.

"We have wiped out the largest world organization of illegal arms traffic," an investigating magistrate, Carlo Palermo, told reporters in this northern city.

The multi-million dollar smuggling empire dealt in "millions and millions of arms, including heavy arms such as armored cars paid for with narcotics," Palermo said. The drugs, mainly heroin, were then sold in Europe, he added.

The magistrate said police had captured the alleged head of the gang, Henri Arsalan a 70-year-old Syrian, and his Italian wife Giovanna of Varese, 54. The two were charged with illegal traffic of arms and narcotics.

Investigators had also issued some 200 arrest warrants for other suspected members of the gang including several Greeks, Turks and Yugoslavs, Palermo said.

The magistrate declined to name the countries involved on grounds that judicial proceedings were still under way. He named six other suspects, all Italians, already under arrest — Eugenio Sacchi, 55, of Milan, Renato Gamba, 42, of Brescia, Muhammad Nabir, 36, of Milan, Mario Cappiello, 43, of Milan, Giuseppe Alberti, 40, of Milan, and Edoardo Pagnoni, 40, of Milan.

He said the smuggling was discovered after an arrested drug courier told officials of a heroin trail running from Middle East into Austria and West Germany.

U.K. plans floating weapons' showroom

LONDON, Nov. 25 (AP) — Britain is holding a floating exhibition of military equipment for sale to Arab countries in the Middle East, the British Press Association News Agency reported Wednesday.

Quoting Defense Ministry sources, the agency said negotiations for leasing the 6,387-ton car ferry *Viking Venturer* are in their final stages and more than 70 arms makers have booked space.

The agency said that several governments have been asked if they will receive the floating exhibition and responses have been "encouraging." Israel has not been approached.

Similar tours used Royal Navy auxiliary vessels to visit Greece, Spain, Nigeria, Colombia and Tunisia in 1978 and Egypt, Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia in 1977.

The car ferry, however, will permit tanks and other armored vehicles to be driven off for exhibition of their firepower.

Kremlin warns MX plan may trigger arms race

MOSCOW, Nov. 25 (R) — The Kremlin said Thursday that President Ronald Reagan's plan for deploying the new MX missile would breach Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT) accords and that the Soviet Union would respond by boosting its own arsenals.

In what was clearly the authoritative Soviet answer to Reagan's announcement of the MX plan, the Communists Party newspaper *Pravda* accused the U.S. leader of aiming for a wide nuclear superiority over the Soviet Union.

It rejected Reagan's charge that Moscow was carrying out a relentless military buildup, and said all Soviet weapons development had merely been following advances already made by the United States. Reagan said Monday that he wanted to deploy 100 MX missiles in silos in Wyoming to meet the challenge from Soviet nuclear forces. His plan still has to be approved by Congress.

Pravda said that if the MX plan were implemented, the Soviet Union would regard it as a breach of the intercontinental missile agreements between Moscow and Washington.

"Washington cannot but know that this (MX deployment) runs counter to one of the central provisions of the SALT-I and SALT-II accords: An obligation not to create additional silos for inter-continental missiles," the commentary said.

Moscow has always said it would no longer feel bound by the two SALT agreements if they were violated by Washington. Although SALT-II, signed in 1979, has never been ratified by Congress, the U.S. has kept to its conditions.

Pravda also gave a warning that Moscow would build up its own nuclear forces in response to a deployment of the 10-warhead American missile. "The Soviet Union does not intend to chase the U.S.A. in the creation of each new system of weapons," to imitate

delegations. The 17 boycotters plus Chad leaves the meeting two short of a quorum.

The summit, put off in August by a boycott of mostly moderate countries against the admission of the Polisario guerrilla movement in the Moroccan-annexed Western Sahara, was to make Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi OAU chairman until next year.

The proposed compromise would have declared the OAU's formal recognition of Habre's government and ruled out any claim to the Chad seat by the Libyan-backed exile government of Goukouni Oueddei, backed by Habre's forces in June from the Chadian capital, N'Djamena.

In return, Habre was asked to issue a declaration "voluntarily" giving up his right to send a delegation to the Tripoli summit. The proposed compromise did not explain on what legal grounds Habre was asked to stay away.

A Libyan spokesman said the Libyan authorities "could not guarantee the safety" of a Habre delegation in Tripoli. Libyan forces intervened in Chad's civil war in 1981 and fought a bitter campaign against Habre's men.

Agca accomplice arrested in Italy

ROME, Nov. 25 (R) — Italian anti-terrorist police Thursday arrested a 35-year-old Bulgarian on suspicion of complicity in the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul in St. Peter's Square last year, judicial sources said.

The man was named as Serge Ivanov Antonov, born in Sofia and resident in Rome. He was the fourth person to be arrested in connection with the gun attack on the Polish pontiff during a public audience on May 13, 1981, and the first East European to be officially linked to the assassination attempt.

The sources said investigators believed that Antonov was either present in St. Peter's Square or waiting nearby when Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca fired at the Pope, seriously wounding him.



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON: As this little boy strides proudly behind his father there can be no doubt that he is personifying the popular motto about 'following in his father's footsteps'. The expressive situation is seen at a traditional festival in Nuremberg, West Germany.

Kremlin warns MX plan may trigger arms race

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Lebanon to impose military draft plan

BEIRUT, Nov. 25 (AP) — The Lebanese government, using its new emergency powers for the first time, plans to start drafting men for the army as part of President Amin Gemayel's campaign to impose law and order. The state radio reported.

Rebuilding the army is the cornerstone of government efforts to reassert authority over a country carved up by scores of private militias ever since the 1975-76 civil war. The 28,000-member army at present has virtually no authority outside the capital and its suburbs.

The state radio, as well as privately owned stations, reported the decision Wednesday night after the cabinet's regular weekly session. The broadcast said Defense Minister Issam Khoury has been instructed to prepare for the induction of the first group of draftees.

The broadcasts did not say when the draft was to start or how many men would be drafted. It also gave no indication of the age group to be covered by the draft.

The president and Prime Minister Shafiq Wazzan, have made the rebuilding of Lebanon's Army a top priority of their two-month-old government. The expansion of the army is a key element in enabling Lebanon to

Sussex mission offers wide range of products

JEDDAH, Nov. 25 — An extensive range of products will be offered by 16 British companies visiting Saudi Arabia on a trade mission organized by the Federation of Sussex Industries arriving here today and staying through Dec. 11.

From Nov. 26 to Dec. 1, the mission will be at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here going next to Riyadh Regency Hotel and on Dec. 6 to Dharan (Algasibah Hotel).

Most members of the mission already do some business with Saudi Arabia, while a few are breaking new ground. Their visit is aimed at highlighting the importance of this still growing market for specialist enterprises keen to meet local requirements.

The representatives will make and renew contacts with customers, agents and distributors as well as introduce new lines, ranging from cryogated vacuum pumps and robotics training systems to fresh fragrances and modern office equipment.

The mission will be led by Dr. John Thum, the federation's newly appointed export manager who is also to act as mission secret-

ary. A consultant to the BICC Group (cables, electronics, construction) and former group export manager and director of S.D. Graphics (BICC) Ltd (graphic services and equipment), he has also directed Mebema GMBH, Frankfurt, (chemical supplies) and held appointments between 1953 and 1976 with the Monotype Corporation Ltd. in England, Switzerland and Germany.

His doctorate is in economics and he was awarded the Gutenberg medal for services on printing and publishing electronic systems, and export procedure to national and international publications. He has several times been to Saudi Arabia and travelled widely in the Middle East.

Saudi Arabia was last visited by the FSI during December 1978 when their products were welcomed with enthusiasm. Other highly successful missions have travelled to the Gulf, Egypt, Cyprus, India, Singapore, Japan, Hong Kong, the U.S., Latin America, South Africa, Nigeria, Australia and New Zealand.

34-company U.S. delegation visits Kingdom in December

By Cynthia Sharkey
Houston Bureau

HOUSTON, Nov. 25 — Thirty-four American companies will be represented by a trade and investment mission traveling to Saudi Arabia and Algeria next month. Leading the delegation will be U.S. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige.

The mission, which departs Dec. 1 and returns Dec. 8, will provide opportunities for some American companies already doing business in the two countries to expand, and will introduce other companies to those markets and the exporting field.

According to Baldrige, the mission is "a basic effort to improve trade through diplomatic and business channels." He said the goals for the Saudi Arabia portion of the mission include promoting U.S. commercial interest in the Kingdom, expanding the U.S. commercial relationship and, at the government level, discussing trade policy issues.

Saudi Arabia is the United States' eighth largest exporter market. U.S. exports to Saudi Arabia exceeded \$7.3 billion (\$R2.5 billion) in 1981, up 26 percent over 1980. The Kingdom also offers the largest service contract opportunities in the developing world. More than 500 U.S. firms maintain offices in Saudi Arabia.

In Algeria, Baldrige said the mission's goals include demonstrating American interest in doing more business. Algeria imports

over \$10 billion (\$R34 billion) annually and the United States supplies 7 percent of the Algerian market. Another aim is to introduce smaller companies to the Algerian market.

Top-level business representatives and officials of several government agencies comprise the U.S. trade team. They represent communications, water resources technology, agribusiness, aviation and avionics, manpower development and operations and maintenance services. Government agencies participating include Commerce, State Department, Agricultural Department, the Export-Import Bank, the Overseas Investment Corporation and the Federal Aviation Administration.

In the field of communications, specific companies being represented are Rockwell International Corporation, Scientific Atlanta, Harris Corporation, Singer Products Company, Inc., Saunders Association, Inc. and Plantronics/Frederick Electronics Corporation.

Companies in the water resources technology field are Ionics, Inc., Hydranautics Water System, Koehring-Speedstar, Koomey, Inc. and Arco-Solar, Inc.

Agricusiness firms seeking business in Saudi Arabia and Algeria are Ball Corporation, American Century Corporation, Tidewater Grain, Chew International Group, Venture Trading Co., Inc., and Cito-Zyme Laboratories.

'Gold Rush' prizes awarded

By Habib Rahman
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, Nov. 25 — Al-Esaii Trading Corporation, the dealers of Mitsubishi cars in the Kingdom, gave away the main prizes for the winners of their "Gold Rush" competition here Thursday.

Khaled Ali Al Esayi, deputy managing director of the corporation, gave away the 108 prizes totaling 16 kilograms of pure gold. The competition was held during this year. It evoked a very good response, according to a company spokesman.

The first prize of two kilograms of gold was won by the Dammam-based Al-Mutawwa for Trading & Construction Co. Its personnel manager Muhammad Fayek Ibrahim came here to receive the prize. The company had bought a Mitsubishi "sedan" about three weeks ago for its new engineers.

The second prize of 1 1/2 kilograms of gold went to Salim Assad Ahmad Bamuk was of Riyadh. The third prize of one kilogram went to the Riyadh-based Al-Massariya for Trading Establishment.

Muhammad Saad Al-Mushwah, a student in Riyadh, bagged the fourth 850 gram prize. He told *Arab News* that he intends to open a supermarket with the prize. "I also want to take a course in English and French next year," he said smiling.

Abdul Sami Azzeddeen won the fifth prize of 650 grams. The sixth prize of 450 grams was won by Samir Hassan Ali, a teacher with Aramco. He said he intends to buy Islamic Investment Certificates. The seventh prize of 250 grams went to Muhammad Abdurrahman bin Hodib of Makkah. The remaining 101 prizes of 100 grams each were presented to the winners in a separate ceremony held recently.

Danish exhibition opens Monday

Christian Anderson screened.

Thirteen companies will display their products in the separate commercial section at the exhibit claimed to be the biggest to be held here.

An outdoor section will feature traditional goods of the country.

The program is aimed at making the children aware of various countries and their cultural heritage.

Similar programs were held here earlier in cooperation with the U.S. Australian and Chinese embassies.

Belgian trade group arrives here Friday

RIYADH, Nov. 25 (SPA) — Belgian Prince Albert arrives in Jeddah Friday as president of a large trade mission which comprises more than 100 representatives of various ministries, industrial unions and private companies. Belgium's State Minister for Foreign Trade Andre Kempinaire heads the delegation.

The Belgian group will hold meetings with officials of the commerce, petroleum and minerals, agriculture and water, industry and electricity and finance and national economy during their visits to Jeddah, Riyadh and Dammam. They also will confer with chamber of commerce and industry authorities and Saudi Arabian businessmen.



BUSINESSMEN'S DIALOGUE: Moroccan trade relations and the Moroccan Festival now taking place at the Kandara Palace Hotel were discussed Wednesday night during a presentation at the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Shown here are Moroccan Ambassador Dr. Moulay Ghine L. Adigine Aloui, left, with Chamber of Commerce Vice President Abdul Raouf Abu Zinada.

Literary prize high committee to draw up award regulations

RIYADH, Nov. 25 (SPA) — A higher committee for the state's newly founded literature award will hold its first meeting here next week to draw up the conditions for the Prize.

Prince Faisal ibn Fahd, president of youth welfare, said in a press statement that the award is an honor and recognition of men of letters and culture by King Fahd. Such persons are exerting a special effort to develop the religious, literary and ideological movement in Saudi Arabia, Prince Faisal said.

The committee, chaired by Prince Faisal, included as members Higher Education Minister Hassan Abdullah Al-Sheikh, Industry and Electricity Minister Dr. Ghazi Al-Gosaib, Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University Rector Dr. Abdullah Al-Turki, Dr. Mansour Al-Hazmi and Muhammad Hussain Zaidan.

Prince Faisal commanded the royal decree which gave the Presidency of Youth Welfare the authority to organize cultural weeks and art exhibitions. The decree will have a clear impact on the over-all development of the Saudi Arabian Cultural and Arts Society.

Prayer Times

Friday	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	5:13	5:20	4:51	4:41	5:06	5:39
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:08	12:09	11:40	11:27	11:51	12:21
Asr (Afternoon)	3:16	3:12	2:43	2:27	2:52	3:18
Maghreb (Sunset)	5:38	5:34	5:05	4:48	5:13	5:38
Isha (Night)	7:08	7:04	6:35	6:18	6:43	7:08

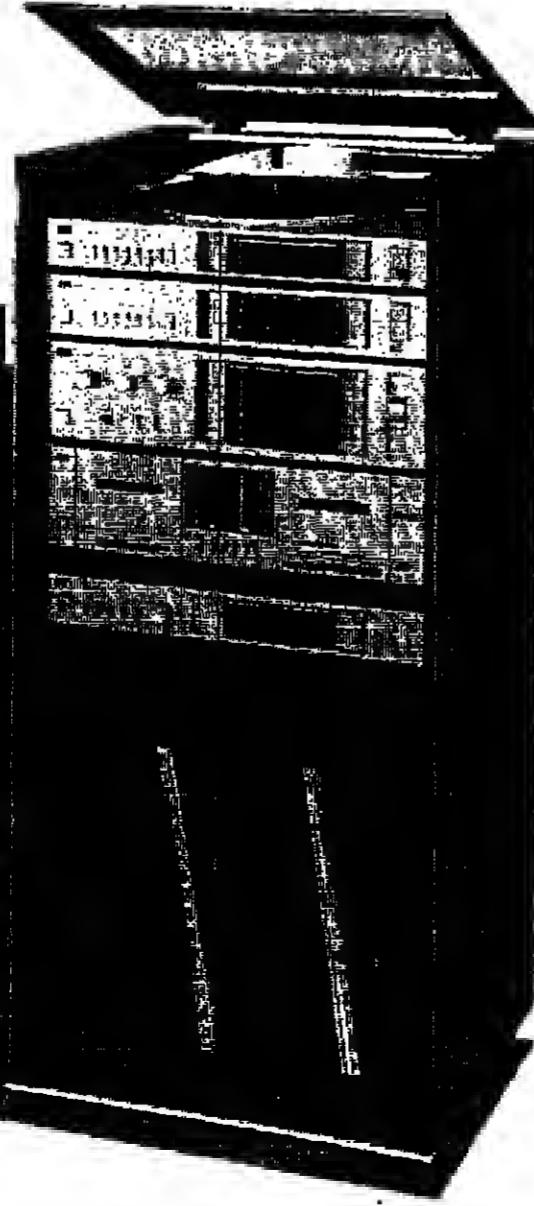
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Mitterrand, Mubarak call on PLO to unilaterally recognize Israel

CAIRO, Nov. 25 (R) — The presidents of Egypt and France called on the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Thursday to recognize Israel as a crucial step toward a solution of the Middle East conflict. Hosni Mubarak and Francois Mitterrand concentrated on the issue of recognition at a news conference after two days of talks largely devoted to Franco-Egyptian efforts to promote peace in the region.

Departing from Egypt's previous stress on mutual recognition, Mubarak said it was imperative for the PLO to accept the Jewish state, "even if the Israelis cannot recognize the Palestinians." He added: "I don't think they will lose anything by doing so. It is a measure that will enable the United States to start the dialogue with them that we have been promised."

"It is not advisable for the PLO to reject all initiatives like Israel does. That is exactly what Israel wants."

Mitterrand, who believes France can play a key role as a "third force" in the peace process, said mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel would provide the break-

through needed to open negotiations.

The French president said each side would be to accept it was going to make concessions to bring about peace. "Perhaps it is painful, with each side believing it is the bearer of an historical message, but that's what it is," he said.

"The single fact of asking the Arab states and the PLO to recognize Israel pre-supposes of course an equivalent gesture by Israel toward the Palestinians," he added. Mitterrand said that his mission was in constant contact with the PLO, but he would not meet its leader, Yasser Arafat, until the PLO adopted what he called a more political status.

He also indirectly criticized President Reagan's plan for an autonomous Palestine in association with Jordan, saying Washington should talk directly to the Palestinians since the problem centered on their future.

Mubarak predicted that Israel would persist in rejecting the Reagan plan, announced in September, and all other initiatives.

Mubarak, who denounced the Israeli presence in Lebanon in a speech Wednesday

night, said he did not believe a change of prime minister in Israel would "have any influence or any effect at all" on Israeli policy. He had been asked about indications that an Israeli inquiry into the massacre of Palestinian civilians in Beirut would announce findings damaging to Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Mitterrand and Mubarak said they believed a Franco-Egyptian peace plan put to the United Nations Security Council last August remained a basis for moves toward new Middle East negotiations. They stressed the harmony of their views on the Middle East and other international issues.

Mitterrand said he also discussed Franco-Egyptian commercial ties. France, Egypt's second biggest supplier of military and civilian equipment after the United States, is to supply 28 Mirage-2000 combat planes worth a billion dollars.

Later Thursday, Mitterrand and Mubarak flew to the winter resort of Aswan, 982 kms south of Cairo, for sightseeing and more talks before Mitterrand travels to India Friday night.

U.S. considers boosting military unit in Lebanon

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25 (AP) — A senior U.S. State Department official has said that the Reagan administration is "actively considering" increasing the American military contingent in Lebanon if it will help bring about a withdrawal of Syrian, Israeli and Palestinian troops and strengthen the hand of the Lebanese central government. One place for possible deployment of more U.S. troops, he said in an interview, is along the Beirut-Damascus highway.

The official, who did not wish to be identified, predicted that negotiations between Israel, Lebanon and the United States on a troop withdrawal from Lebanon will begin soon. But he said it is doubtful that the goal of a complete withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon can be achieved by the end of the year, the target date set by U.S. officials more than a month ago.

However, he added, it still may be possible to achieve "a separation of forces" in Lebanon by the end of the year.

The official said disagreements between Lebanon and Israel over the location of negotiations, and the level of the negotiations, are nearly resolved. Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Mideast envoy, returned the region last week to try to iron out these problems.

These disagreements had delayed the start of talks, which another senior official had said would begin several weeks ago. The senior official interviewed Wednesday said that prediction turned out to be "a little premature."

Meanwhile, two Palestinian mayors who were ousted from their jobs by Israel, said they will report to Palestine Liberation Organization officials on their meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz Tuesday. The mayors, Muhammad Milhem of Halou' and Fahd Kawasmeh of Hebron, told reporters at a luncheon at the American Enterprise Institute here that Shultz "recognizes the basic rights of the Palestinians," as Milhem put it. But they declined to discuss the substance of their talks.

BRIEFS

ANKARA, (AP) — High-level officials in Ankara have denied news reports that a Turkish military jet had either crashed or was missing over the Aegean Sea. Both military and civilian officials said the report was "completely groundless."

KUWAIT, (R) — Awai Battash, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization bureau in Kuwait, said Thursday he had been refused a visa to the United States. He said

the U.S. Embassy had given no reasons for turning down his application for a visa to enable him to attend a lawyers' meeting in Washington later this month.

PEKING, (AFP) — China and Oman have decided to strengthen bilateral cooperation following a visit here by a high-level military delegation from the Sultanate. New China News Agency (NCNA) reported Thursday.



Gen. Hussain Muhammad Ershad

Ershad promises program for democratic rule

DHAKA, Nov. 25 (Agencies) — Bangladesh's military ruler said he would institute a program next year leading to the restoration of democratic civilian rule, probably by the end of 1984. Lt. Gen. Hussain Muhammad Ershad told a meeting of senior government officials Tuesday he would first draw up a system to give the country a stable government backed by massive popular support.

"Let me tell you, though it may sound a bit unusual, that this martial law government will give the nation a real democratic system," he said.

Elections for rural governments would be held next year followed by voting for 52 district councils a few months later.

"I will then create conditions for a national election through which the future government will emerge," Ershad said. He said last month that the constitution, suspended since he took power in March, would be restored with certain amendments.

Commentators believe the amendments would give the armed forces a permanent share in government.

Meanwhile, Ershad leaves for Peking Friday on a week-long official visit, "expected here to" revitalize Dhaka's already close friendship with China. The general is expected to seek modern Chinese arms for his country's defense arsenal. China became Bangladesh's chief arms supplier in 1975.

Ershad is thought to have signed an agreement with Peking for the supply of heavy arms in 1979 when he headed a military delegation to that country. As active members of the Nonaligned Movement, Bangladesh and China have closely similar views on many international issues. The eight-member party going to Peking includes Foreign Minister Shams-ud-Doh.

Officials here said Ershad would discuss with Chinese leaders the situation in the Middle East, Cambodia and Afghanistan.

U.N. panel urges Tel Aviv to renounce nuclear arms

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 25 (Agencies)

— United Nations member-states have passed an Arab resolution calling on Israel to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and place its nuclear facilities under international safeguards. The draft, adopted by the General Assembly's main political committee, was approved by 91 votes to two with 30 abstentions. Wednesday.

The United States and Israel cast the negative votes while most Western countries abstained. Last year the General Assembly passed a similar resolution by 101 votes to two with 39 abstentions.

The draft criticizes Israel for not signing the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and says it is engaged in military and nuclear cooperation with South Africa. A separate

Calling for pullout of foreign troops

U.N. debates draft on Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 25 (Agencies)

— The United Nations General Assembly Wednesday discussed a Pakistani resolution backed by 44 nonaligned countries, calling for an immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and the right of the Afghans to choose their own government.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, the first speaker in a General Assembly debate on "the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security," presented the draft resolution which also called for U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to continue his peacekeeping efforts.

Yaqub Khan asked the General Assembly to send "the clear message that the international community cannot acquiesce in repression and reliance on force and cannot relent in its demand for a just political settlement."

Yaqub Khan stated that the past three years "have demonstrated that neither sophisticated weapons nor the might of a superpower has been able to extinguish the heroic spirit of the Afghan people to assert their freedom and to combat foreign domination of their land." Yaqub Khan called particular attention to "the colossal problem of the Afghan refugees, which directly affects its neighbor."

According to the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, their number has reached, in Pakistan alone, nearly three million people.

The Christian Democrats and Socialists are currently trying to form Italy's 43rd postwar government following the fall of Prime Minister Giorgio Napolitano.

Socialist Party foreign affairs expert Margherita Boniver said premature recognition

Italy won't recognize PLO now

ROME, Nov. 25 (R) — A senior official of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Thursday urged Italy to recognize the organization, but Italian politicians said early recognition was unlikely.

The PLO's Rome representative, Nimer Haomad, told a press conference recognition of the organization would be the most important contribution Italy's next government could make to solving the Middle East conflict.

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Following the announcement here last Friday of the group's founding, Rafsanjani had said Iran was prepared to provide them bases close to Iran's frontier with Iraq.

TEHRAN, Nov. 25 (AFP) — Parliamentary Speaker Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani Thursday confirmed that Iran was preparing to offer bases to Iraqi opposition groups on Iranian territory.

Speaking on Radio Tehran, Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani said Iran's Superior Defense Council decided Wednesday to furnish bases to Iraqi groups working for the overthrow of the Baghdad regime. He said Iran's revolutionary guards had been charged with preparing and supplying the bases.

However, he added that Tehran should not interfere with the activities of the newly-founded Iraqi Islamic High Council, based here. The council, whose avowed aim is to topple the Baghdad government, should be allowed to carry out operations "wherever they desire," he said.

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TEHRAN, Nov. 25 (AFP) —

'Great agreement' on defense policy

Bonn reaffirms pledge on NATO missiles

BONN, Nov. 25 (AP) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his cabinet held more than three hours of talks with NATO commander, Gen. Bernard Rogers, and two other senior alliance commanders Wednesday and reaffirmed Bonn's commitment to deploy new U.S. nuclear missiles next year if necessary.

Government spokesman Dietmar Stolze refused to give details of the talks but said they followed speeches from Rogers and the two other NATO commanders, Adm. Wesley Lee McDonald, supreme commander, Atlantic, (SACLANT) and Adm. Sir William Staveley, commander-in-chief, English Channel (CinchCen).

West Germany's Inspector-General Jürgen Brandt also gave a short speech on

For criticizing government

Ian Smith under attack

HARARE, Nov. 25 (AP) — Zimbabwe's official and semi-official media are coming down hard on former Premier Ian Smith following his brief detention by police, suggesting that he should leave the country or face jail for having criticized the government while in the United States.

Smith and several associates from his Republican Front (RF) white opposition party, including two other members of parliament, were held for questioning for about two hours late Tuesday night before being released. Police said in a statement Wednesday night that they had been investigating

De la Madrid takes over Wednesday

MEXICO, Nov. 25 (AP) — Miguel de la Madrid, the 47-year-old lawyer and economist who takes over the presidency here next Wednesday, will have to deal with one of Mexico's worst-ever economic and monetary crises.

Bin as candidate of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) elected in July with an overwhelming majority, he will at least have the support of a comfortable 300 out of 400 seats in parliament, the entire senate and all the state governors for his government's program.

A member of the PRI since 1963, he has risen rapidly in its ranks and held several important posts. He took over the Budget Ministry, in 1979 which he held until he became a presidential candidate in October last year.

Born on the Pacific coast in the state of Colima, he was two when his father died and the family emigrated to the capital. But his academic ability quickly became evident, as he studied law in Mexico to doctorate level, then went to Harvard University in the United States where he obtained a diploma in public administration. On his return to Mexico, he held a succession of posts as undersecretary, one of them connected with the state-owned oil company Pemex, at the same time holding the chair of constitutional law at Mexico University.

His background inevitably earned him the label "technocrat," but during his eight month presidential campaign he managed to breathe a little human warmth into this image. A heavy smoker but elegant dresser in town, he turned up in casual clothes to address mass meetings in the country.

Marrried for 25 years, with five sons aged 12 to 22, two already at university, he has taken pains to project the image of a family man, to back up his election promises for a moral revival and egalitarian society.

His wife, Paloma Cordero, accompanied him during his campaign. They live in an elegant Spanish colonial style house in the south of the city here, where in the weeks before the election De la Madrid held court in fluent English to foreign journalists, politicians and supporters.

One of key slogans in his campaign was his determination to stamp out corruption, which has become endemic in Mexico. He also promised to tackle the problem of the poor, whose already low standard of living has been further aggravated by the economic crisis.

It is on this platform of honesty and fair dealing that he fought his campaign to become the 23rd president since the 1910 revolution.

the state of his armed forces and Bonn's view of NATO defense needs, Stolze said.

Wednesday's meeting was the first between the NATO commanders and Bonn's new center-right government, which took power last month after Kohl defeated former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in a parliamentary ballot.

Stolze said the meeting showed there was "great agreement" on almost all aspects of defense policy between the NATO commanders and the Kohl government.

A written statement prepared before the meeting but distributed afterward reaffirmed Bonn's commitment to deploy 108 Pershing-2 and 96 Cruise missiles from December next year if necessary.

Deployment would begin "if by that time the talks between the Soviet Union and the United States do not reach a concrete result that makes stationing unnecessary," the statement said.

Stolze would not say what Bonn would consider a "concrete result" of the Geneva talks, which opened almost a year ago but are reported to have made little progress.

The statement on Bonn's foreign and defense policy came a day before Kohl is due to make a major speech to the Bonn parliament in which he is expected to renew his pledge for continuity in West German foreign policy and to report on his trip to Washington last week.

Wednesday's statement reiterated Bonn's

commitment to an "appropriate military strength" for NATO but also to arms control talks, dialogue and trade with the Soviet bloc. It said that "Western security interests must be preserved."

It also appealed to the Soviet Union to renounce the use of force and, while recognizing the "security needs" of Moscow, said that these should not be met at the expense of NATO and Western Europe.

The Soviet Union has more than 300 SS-20 nuclear missiles targeted on Western Europe, according to NATO intelligence. This threat and ways to counter it have split the Western alliance over the past three years, particularly in West Germany where there is a strong anti-missiles peace movement.

Branigan hit leaps to No. 1

NEW YORK, Nov. 25 (AP) — "Gloria" by Laura Branigan took a giant leap and wound up in the top spot among best-selling single pop records in the United States. The Branigan hit was seventh a week ago on the *Cashbox* magazine chart and not even in the top ten bracket before that.

Lionel Richie's "Truly" moved up one notch to second place, and the Joe Cocker-Jennifer Warnes duet on "Up Where We Belong" slipped from No. 1 to third. Last week's No. 2 hit, Olivia Newton-John's "Heart Attack," dipped from second to fourth.

Four newcomers vaulted into the ten top pop list this week — Joe Jackson's "Steppin' Out," up from 11th to 7th; Toni Basil's "Mickey," up from 16th to 8th; a Michael Jackson-Paul McCartney duet on "The Girl Is Mine," up from 17th to 9th; and "Muscles" by Diana Ross, up from 12th to 10th.

In the country and western singles field, Conway Twitty's "We did but now you Don't" took over the No. 1 spot in the *Cashbox* Magazine chart.

The ten top pop singles, as rated by *Cashbox*, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (7) Gloria — Laura Branigan.
2. (13) Truly — Lionel Richie.
3. (1) Up Where We Belong — Joe Cocker and Jennifer Warnes.
4. (2) Heart Attack — Olivia Newton-John.
5. (8) Maneater — Daryl Hall and John Oates.
6. (4) Who Can It Be Now? — Men at Work.
7. (11) Steppin' Out — Joe Jackson.
8. (16) Mickey — Toni Basil.
9. (17) The Girl Is Mine — Michael Jackson and Paul McCartney.
10. (12) Muscles — Diana Ross.

The ten top country-western singles, as rated by *Cashbox*, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (3) We did but now you Don't — Conway Twitty.
2. (2) War is Hell — T.G. Sheppard.
3. (8) It Ain't Easy Bein' Easy — Janie Fricke.
4. (5) Ever, Never Lovin' You — Ed Bruce.
5. (6) Step Back — Ronnie McDowell.
6. (10) You and I — Eddie Rabbitt and Crystal Gayle.
7. (1) Heartbreak — Ricky Skaggs.
8. (11) Sure Feels Like Love — Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers Band.
9. (12) Somewhere Between Right and Wrong — Earl Thomas Conley.
10. (13) Redneck Girl — The Bellamy Brothers.

In Britain, Eddy Grant, a Jamaican-born Reggae artist who went solo after enormous success with the Eagles pop group in the 1960s, remained No. 1 this week in the singles chart for a third straight week with "I Don't Wanna Dance."

He was pursued in second place by U.S. soul star Marvin Gaye's "beating," while a new band, Wham, climbed seven places to No. 3 with "Young Guns (go for it)."

This week's chart as compiled by *Melody Makers*, with last week's placings in brackets:

1. (1) I Don't Wanna Dance — Eddy Grant.
2. (3) Healing — Marvin Gaye.
3. (10) Young Guns (go for it) — Wham.
4. (4) Mad World — Tears for Fears.
5. (2) Heartbreaker — Dionne Warwick.
6. (12) Mirror Man — Human League.
7. (11) Living on the Ceiling — Blancmange.
8. (5) Theme From Harry's Game — Clanad.
9. (8) Maneater — Daryl Hall and John Oates.
10. (14) State of Independence — Donna Summer.

Bermuda gets support

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Nov. 25 (AP) — U.S. Vice President George Bush Wednesday pledged America's continued support for Bermuda, saying Washington considered the mid-Atlantic island a valued and important friend. Bush was speaking during an official 24-hour visit to this British colony, en route from his tour of Africa.

Bush held talks with Governor Sir Richard Posnett, Premier John Swan and leader of the opposition Lois Browne Evans. He also visited the major U.S. military base on the island.

In a statement later, Bush stressed the strategic importance Bermuda held for the United States and said that should the island opt for independence from Britain, the United States would take an active interest in seeing to it that it was "free from force being exerted from outside." Bush left Wednesday for the United States.

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'Deficits stumbling block'

Fed says '83 year of recovery

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25 (R) — America's top banker predicted that 1983 would be a year of recovery from economic recession, the worst since the 1930s.

Paul Volcker, chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board, pledged that his central bank would continue a flexible monetary policy to encourage recovery.

But huge federal budget deficits projected for 1983 and future years threaten to cut short an economic rebound, Volcker told the congressional joint economic committee. "The fact is those deficits are a major hazard in sustaining recovery," he said.

Volcker acknowledged there were still no concrete signs of an upturn in the U.S. economy, and he expressed concern about a plan President Reagan is considering to move forward a 10 percent income tax cut from next July to January 1983.

The Fed chairman said the speed-up would need to be accompanied by major cuts in federal spending to reduce deficits projected as high as \$200 billion in 1984 and beyond.

Volcker told the committee that inflationary momentum had been broken, and he said big rises in energy or food prices seemed unlikely in the foreseeable future.

But continued vigilance on inflation was necessary, he added. Attempts to force interest rates down by greatly expanding the supply of money and credit would lead only to future rounds of inflation.

On the Fed's recent conduct of monetary

policy, Volcker said he expected money supply growth to exceed the targets the central bank set this summer.

Volcker said the growth is consistent with current economic and financial conditions. M-2 and M-3 are expected to above their target ranges by one-half to one percent and M-1 above its target range by somewhat more, he said. The 1982 targets are 2.5 to 5.5 percent for M-1, six to nine percent for M-2 and 6.5 to 9.5 percent for M-3.

Many analysts believe that since October the Fed has greatly eased monetary policy to bring interest rates down and spur economic activity.

But Volcker said the above-target growth in money supply was entirely consistent with the Fed's July decision to be more flexible in

gauging movements in the money supply.

Reagan's proposal to raise U.S. petrol taxes by five cents a gallon to pay for highway renovation was "quite reasonable", Volcker told the committee.

Meanwhile, private economists raised doubts that economic recovery in the United States will begin before January.

For the first time since early August, meanwhile, new claims for unemployment insurance benefits fell below 600,000, the Labor Department reported Wednesday.

In the week ended Nov. 13, some 599,000 Americans filed applications for jobless benefits, a decline of 29,000 from the previous week's revised level, the employment and training administration said.

Mexico enjoys oil boom

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 25 (R) — Mexico is turning down requests to buy its crude, even as some other oil exporting nations are struggling to find new customers. Gilberto Escobedo, director of the Mexican oil monopoly Pemex, told Reuters.

The competitive price of Mexican crude has driven demand beyond supply, he said, adding Mexico is now pumping oil at maximum capacity of 2.8 million barrels per day (bpd), leaving 1.7 million bpd for export after supplying domestic market needs. Mexico has boosted its production from 1.04 million bpd in January.

Demand has been greatest for Mexico's heavy Maya crude because the U.S. and Europe have modified their refineries to process more heavy oil, he said.

Exports of Maya, now account for about 60 percent of total exports, against half earlier this year, he said. The Maya crude is also attracting more buyers because it is priced about \$6 below the comparable Venezuelan crude, industry analysts said.

To maintain Maya crude exports, Pemex this year has begun relevant work on the Mayapilco in the Campeche Bay as part of a secondary recovery program, Escobedo said.

The Campeche Bay produces over half of Mexico's 2.8 million bpd well output that Escobedo called the world's most productive.

Escobedo said exploration efforts are constant both on and offshore because production will decline by more than 200,000 bpd annually unless Mexico invests funds in exploration and exploitation of new wells.

He said, he could not predict what oil investment program President-elect Miguel de la Madrid will draw up when he takes office on Dec. 1.

De la Madrid's energy advisers in a recent report said that with proper financing Mexico could raise its exports to between 1.8 million and two million bpd within six to 12 months from the present annual average of 1.5 million bpd.

On refining, Escobedo said Mexico two months ago ended all arrangements to refine its crude abroad. This was possible because its refineries, after months of overhaul, can now meet Mexico's domestic refining needs.

Mexico refined one million bpd abroad earlier this year because maintenance work had shut down sections of refineries throughout the country, he said.

New coffee's fate rests on taste

HAMBURG, Nov. 25 (R) — A new type of coffee could soon be on the tables of European consumers, although whether they will like the taste is anyone's guess.

Jacobs of Bremen, a leading West German coffee roaster, began marketing high-yield coffees last month to test public response, and says reaction has been favorable.

Under the high-yield process, used in the United States since the early 1970s, the beans are roasted for up to 40 percent less time than usual, Jacobs spokesman said.

At temperatures of up to 700 centigrade (1292 fahrenheit) instead of about 200 cen-

tigrade (392 fahrenheit) with normal methods, the beans swell up more and yield more coffee, a researcher with the London coffee firm of Lyons explained.

The new process gives up to five cups of coffee where there were only four before, according to the Jacobs spokesman, although rival firms dispute this.

Rivals and industry analysts also told Reuters that high-yield coffees led to an overall decline in coffee quality in America, and said the West German market could experience the same problem.

The Jacobs spokesman agreed quality in U.S. had sagged, but said the coffee tested in Germany was of the same quality as the firm's established products.

EEC, Brazil sign trade agreement

BRUSSELS, Nov. 25 (AFP) — The European Economic Community (EEC) has concluded a new 1983-86 trade agreement with Brazil, but negotiations with Hong Kong have still not resolved, an EEC commission official said Thursday.

No date had been fixed for further discussions with the Hong Kong delegation, but informal contacts were in progress.

The commission has rejected proposals by Hong Kong last week in connection with the anti-surge mechanism, which it wants to be consultative whereas the EEC wants freedom to act without prior consultations. The EEC is working out new proposals.

Hong Kong has also come up with new ideas as to quantities, but these have not been accepted by the commission, the official said.

A Hong Kong delegation source Thursday reiterated that there was no question of agreeing a 12 percent cutback in quotas shipped to the EEC. However, Hong Kong was ready to talk at anytime.

Negotiations between the EEC and Indonesia were continuing. This is the only member of the Association of South East Asian nations (ASEAN) which has yet to conclude a deal.

Bangladesh gets \$110m from IDA

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25 (AP) — A credit to Bangladesh of \$110 million to finance imports was announced Wednesday by the International Development Association, the soft-loan affiliate of the World Bank.

The IDA said the program credit will support modifications in the government's budgetary process to improve agricultural and food policies. It will also support the new industrial policy of June 1982 which provided incentives for expansion of manufacturing and increased private sector participation.

The credit is for 50 years and bears no interest but has a service charge of .5 percent on undisbursed balances of the credit and .75 percent on disbursed balances.

Saudi consortium bags Beirut hotel

BEIRUT, Nov. 25 (AFP) — A Saudi Arabian consortium has acquired 76 percent of the Hilton Hotel on the waterfront in Beirut, along with the Continental Development Bank, for a total of \$31 million, the newspaper *Al Nahr* reported Thursday.

It said the chief participant in the consortium was businessman Mahfouz Salem ibn Mahfouz who bought the Toronto Dominion Bank last year. The Hilton cost the consortium \$2.5 million and the Continental Development Bank \$6 million, the paper said.

The plan about to be unveiled is thus expected to aim at moderate growth, probably of more than five percent a year, accompanied by continuing efforts to improve the economic infrastructure as begun under the

Laker rivals face suit for damages

Dollar continues to slide

By J. H. Hammond

JEDDAH, Nov. 25 — The American dollar continued to fall on the European exchanges Thursday but dealing was generally quiet due to the closure of the New York markets for holidays on Thursday. The British pound was generally weak and closed at 1.5890 levels in New York on Wednesday night before staging a rally to 1.5960 levels on Thursday in London.

Laker, whose no-frills skytrain slashed trans-Atlantic fares in 1977, went bust last February owing 260 million pounds (then \$483 million).

Morris said in a statement that the suit was filed in U.S. Federal Court by the London firm of accountants in which he is a partner, Touche, Ross and Co.

The defendants are British Airways, British Caledonian, Pan American Airways, Lufthansa, Swissair and the plancemakers McDonnell Douglas and McDonnell Douglas Finance Corp.

If the action is successful, there would be sufficient money to pay all Laker's creditors but a final hearing might have to wait three or four years, Morris said.

"Our case is that the airlines and McDonnell Douglas got together and in unison took action which destroyed Laker," Morris told Press Association, the British Domestic news agency.

He said the pound was still not comforted by statements from the British chancellor of the exchequer to the effect that the government had no target rate for sterling, nor were they solving their basic industrial competitive problems by a de facto devaluation of the pound. Still the markets were not comforted and one dealer characterized the pound as being "friendless".

In other currency news the dollar retreated against the French franc to trade at 7.1160 levels from 7.1600 in New York, and the German mark also rose to 2.5160 levels.

The victory of the Liberal Democratic Party in Japan ensured that the yen rose to new highs against the dollar and the Japanese currency closed at around 250.30 levels Thursday compared with 253.00 on Wednesday. The Swiss franc also rose to 2.1630 levels in active dealing with the markets feeling the Swiss currency has become undervalued against the dollar.

The Eurodollar markets fell back Thursday and the money markets eased back by

as much as 1/4 percent in some tenors, taking the one-month rate to 8 1/4-8 1/2 percent and the week-fixed to 8 1/4-8 1/2 percent. In the longer dated funds, dollar rates also came off and the one-year deposit is quoted at 9 1/2-10 1/2 percent levels. The money markets were cautiously assessing their long-term views on dollar interest rates and the general feeling was that the Federal Reserve Board would reduce its discount rate by another 1/4 percent soon. The "Fed" has lately been acting although it wanted to come down further and "Fed fund" prime lending rate have traded around 14-14 1/2 percent for most of the Tuesday and Wednesday.

The local markets also saw a fall in riyal deposit rates—the first for the past four weeks. The week-fixed riyals were quoted at 8-8 1/2 percent, while the one-month JIBOR rate opened at 8 1/4-8 1/2 percent but later eased to 8-8 1/2 percent levels.

The longer-dated funds—which had seemed immune to such falls Wednesday, was affected on the Thursday markets and the one-year rate fell to 9 1/2-10 percent from 9 1/4-10 1/2 percent Wednesday levels.

Dealers reported that institution were wary of entering with long-dated transaction deals and that the week and two-week periods were the most popular.

The exchanges, spot riyal/dollar rates opened at 3.4402-08 but closed at a lower level of 3.4400-05 due to the dollar's European falls.

Greek plan to cut oil imports

ATHENS, Nov. 25 (AP) — Greece plans to reduce dependence on imported oil for energy production by boosting use of local hydroelectric and lignite resources, Energy Minister Evangelos Coloumbis has said.

But the Socialist government has decided against building nuclear power stations "because safety can't be guaranteed in this earthquake-prone region," Coloumbis told a news conference.

"Our energy policy aims at self-sufficiency through using all domestic resources," he said. At present Greece spends the equivalent of \$6 billion annually on energy needs, about half in foreign currency.

Oil presently accounts for 27 percent of electricity production in Greece's energy mix, with lignite, or soft coal, covering 56.9 percent and hydroelectric power 15.9 percent, Coloumbis said.

By the end of the 1980's, lignite will cover more than 80 percent of energy production,

"AS A LAST RESORT, WHAT IF WE TRIED COMING RIGHT OUT AND TELLING THE CUSTOMER OUR BEST PRICE?"



Albeit two years late

Peking set to launch new plan

PEKING, Nov. 25 (AFP) — The National People's Congress (NPC) — the Communist Chinese parliament — which begins a plenary session Friday, will launch into the sixth five-year plan, albeit two years late.

However, the economy has just achieved an about-turn for the better which foreign experts believe is little short of spectacular.

On Tuesday Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang is to present the plan which is due to be the first step in the ambitious program detailed to the Chinese Communist Party congress in September by party Secretary Gen. Hu Yaobang.

He expressed the hope that China would rank among major economic powers by the end of the century, and said that gross national product would quadruple by then.

Precise details are unavailable, but one Western expert has forecast that the Chinese government will try to combine the objective detailed by Hu and the economic readjustment applied in recent years, before giving way to a much more expansionist seven plan.

The plan about to be unveiled is thus expected to aim at moderate growth, probably of more than five percent a year, accompanied by continuing efforts to improve the economic infrastructure as begun under the

policy of readjustment, the expert said.

The readjustment policy, currently in effect, is a program of austerity to put the economy in good shape. Foreign experts note that the most spectacular progress has been made in the sector of external trade, with a 1981 surplus of more than \$1.5 billion, while the 1982 surplus is expected to be about the same.

This has been achieved both by a reduction of imports and an increase in exports. There has been a boost to agriculture, reflecting overall success of policy in the countryside where 80 percent of the population of more than 1,000 million live.

This policy, based on "responsibility," reversed previous rural policy by linking peasant farmers' incomes to their output, and it established an element of private enterprise.

Foreign experts now lend credence to Chinese forecasts of a record grain harvest this year of about 335 million tons. A few months ago some of these experts were skeptical that this figure could be achieved.

There appears to have been some success in attempts to reduce the rate of inflation which officially totaled 1.9 percent in 1979, six percent in 1980, and 2.4 percent in 1981.

BRIEFS

BRUSSELS, (AFP) — France is believed to have assured the European Economic Community (EEC) that the processing of imported videotape recorders through the central French town of Poitiers will not impede free trade in units made in the community, community sources said here Thursday.

LAGOS, (AP) — Nigeria's oil output was halved between 1979 and 1981, hitting the nation's total output of goods and services, according to Mrs. Adenike Oyagbola, minister of national planning. She told a news conference that the output of oil fell from 7.5 billion barrels (\$10.87 billion) in 1979 to 3.98 billion barrels (\$5.77 billion) in 1981, the New Agency of Nigeria has reported.

FRANKFURT, (R) — West German money supply fell a seasonally adjusted 500 million marks in October to 796.1 billion, following a 9.1 billion mark rise in September and compared with a 3.9 billion mark fall in October last year, the Bundesbank said. The Bundesbank said money supply expanded at an annual rate of 5.5 percent over the six months to October.

LONDON, (AFP) — Communist China has bought 800,000 tons of white (refined) sugar from the European Economic Community — 300,000 tons for delivery in 1982 and the rest in 1983, according to reports cited by trade sources. In 1981, apparently the first year that China showed any interest in EEC sugar, it bought just 20,000 tons from the community.

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ARMS RACE CULPRITS

Addressing the special UNESCO conference in Paris yesterday Greek President Constantine Karamanlis has made not only a magnificent speech but also presented a mature study of the wretched state of affairs in the world today.

He pointed out the absurdity of spending \$500 billion a year on arms and ammunition while the majority of the people on earth are starving, many of them to death. Those who are not actually dying of hunger and malnutrition have to suffer the indignities of living on slums and pavements, in hovels and squalor. They continue to reproduce and maintain the steady decline into the lowest rung of living while their own governments have to shop around for the latest fighter bombers and tanks only to replenish the coffers of arms peddlers and further impoverish their own.

Karamanlis has predicted that one day the poor will join together against the rich and this will compel East and South to reduce their tensions as the gap between the North and South becomes wider.

But the real culprits of the arms race are the two superpowers whose industries and livelihood are inextricably twined with making arms and selling them. In various degrees this should also apply to the other Western and Communist states which develop, manufacture and export arms to the poorer countries of the world.

Nor are the poor ones quite exempt from blame and conspiracy against themselves and people. Many of them in Africa, Asia and Latin America have failed lamentably to settle their own differences and continued to fuel a state of tension, which requires large standing armies to deter their neighbors.

Saudi Arabian press review

Al-Jazirah Thursday rebuked Britain for its refusal to accept a PLO representative as a member of the Arab committee's delegation expected to visit London soon. The paper said Britain was of particular interest to the committee's mission because of its direct responsibility for the Middle East problem.

Moreover, Britain was the first state which usurped the rights of the Palestinian people, and the Balfour declaration has not yet been forgotten, it added.

The paper noted that Britain's recognition of the PLO would give momentum to the peace process in the Middle East. Moreover, the inclusion of a PLO representative in the Arab League delegation expected to visit London, will provide

a good chance for Britain to recognize the PLO and such a move will effectively help international moves for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, the paper wrote.

Al-Madina highlighted the importance of the Palestine Central Council's meeting due to start in Damascus Thursday to draw up plans for new Palestinian moves following the Beirut battle and the Arab Fez summit. The paper said the Zionists and its allies were completely surprised at the continuing "firm and mature" Palestinian leadership to disintegrate.

It praised efforts made by the PLO and its Chairman Yasser Arafat to maintain Arab solidarity. (SPA)



China trying to counter Soviet influence in Africa

By Martha Honey

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania

China seems to be taking an increasing interest in Africa as an arena to counter Soviet influence and to assert its claim as leader of the Third World. Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang is to visit seven African countries early next year, according to foreign diplomats in Peking. China has not officially announced the visit, but the envoys said Zhao go to Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Guinea, Zaire, Zambia and Tanzania.

He will be the first Chinese premier to visit this continent of 485 million people since the late Chou En-lai went to Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Mali, Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia in 1963-64 and pronounced Africa ripe for revolution.

Under Mao Tse-tung, about half of China's foreign aid went to Africa, a continent of have-nots with 20 of the world's 30 least developed countries. But since Mao's death in 1976, China has slackened its aid to the Third World and concentrated its limited resources on building its own economy and strengthening ties with the United States and Western Europe.

Western diplomats based in Tanzania, the major African beneficiary of Chinese aid, said they believe Zhao's visit may mark the beginning of a renewed Chinese commitment to Africa.

China has been cutting back on economic assis-

tance and size of diplomatic missions in Africa because of its many problems at home, remarked one Western envoy. But in the last month or so, I get the feeling that this is reversing. He cited in addition to Zhao's visit, China's establishment of diplomatic relations with Soviet-backed Angola in September, heightened interest in independence for Southwest Africa (Namibia), and in Tanzania the signing of several new aid agreements.

In Somalia, China agreed in August to build a "political education" college in the Somali capital, Mogadishu. On Oct. 24, the Somalis officially opened a hydroelectric project on the Juba River, which was begun by the Soviet in the early 1970s and completed by the Chinese. The Soviets abandoned the dam project in 1977 when the (USSR) switched its backing to Ethiopia in a war over the disputed Ogaden region of southeastern Ethiopia. (The Chinese made a fresh start on it in 1979.)

In Rwanda, where Chinese workers built the parliament building, the Chinese are gearing up to provide labor on a commercial basis for a West German-funded road-building project. The planned highway will connect Kigali, the capital of the tiny East African nation, and the northern town of Ruhengeri.

Zhao summed up China's aims in Africa earlier this year when he told the Guinea-Bissau head of state, Joao Bernardo Vieira, during a visit to Peking, that China would do its best to help developing

countries change "the unjust international economic order."

He got in a jibe at the Soviet Union and the United States and put China firmly in the Third World camp: "China holds that the cause of the current tension and turbulence in the world lies in the scramble between the two superpowers. China stands for the strengthening of unity among the Third World countries."

While still arguing that its foreign policy is intended to build Third World solidarity, China also clearly aims to counter Soviet influence. Huang Hua, the foreign minister who was ousted in a cabinet shuffle announced last week, noted during a 1978 visit to Zaire that China's main concern was "the Soviet global strategy for domination."

China's biggest overseas aid project was the construction between 1970 and 1976 of the 1,859-kilometer Tanzania-Zambia railway from Zambia's copper belt to Tanzania's Indian Ocean port of Dar Es Salaam. The railway, now plagued by mismanagement, inefficiency and quarrels between Tanzania and Zambia, was built by an army of 10,000 Chinese and 50,000 Africans at a cost of about \$680 million to free landlocked Zambia from dependence on transport through white-ruled Rhodesia and South Africa. (AP)

of Joshua Nkomo.

Since Zimbabwe's independence, Chinese money has been tight, as Prime Minister Mugabe found last year when he paid his first official visit to Peking and came away with less in aid pledges than he hoped for.

While the Soviet Union has tended to aid only leftist governments and then mostly with military hardware, China has forged ties with a broad spectrum of countries — ranging from rightist pro-Western Zaire and Morocco to Socialist Tanzania and Mozambique. Chinese aid to Africa is estimated at \$2 billion between 1970 and 1977 before the cutback.

It has included military training and hardware to Zaire, a sports complex in Morocco, a sugar mill in Sierra Leone, a road project in Zambia and a clearing of medical teams and agroforests in many other of the 45 African countries with which China has diplomatic relations.

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U.N. General Assembly faces a difficult year

By Juan Forcada

UNITED NATIONS

One of the stars of the General Assembly is a man who has seven lives: Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet foreign minister who survived Stalin, Krushchev and Brezhnev and seven United States' secretaries of state. He is the foreign minister with the longest term — 24 years — which is a Guinness Book record, and he had been around in the San Francisco Opera when the United Nations was born. At 73, a Politburo member for ten years, this "foreign policy specialist" is as impulsive and humorless as ever. He didn't say anything new even though he conversed with Secretary of State George Schultz, twice, for about seven hours, with no apparent visible results.

Gromyko was one of the more than 100 foreign ministers, heads of states and chief delegates who addressed the 37th General Assembly. Most of them spoke about the tragedies of Lebanon and the Middle East, in general, the deepening economic crisis and the arms race; it is important to note that it is now the second Disarmament Decade of the United Nations, and the arms race, which about 15 years ago swallowed \$100 billion annually, has risen to over \$500 billion in 1982.

The general debate lasts, yearly, for three weeks; usually five speakers address the General Assembly in the morning, and another five in the afternoon. Many of them repeat commonplaces.

The early years of the United Nations were described and sketched by two famous cartoonists, Emery Kelen and Lasszlo Derso, whose cartoons decorate the Palais de Nations in Geneva. After the

Opera Season in San Francisco, they wrote, many sites for the United Nations were being considered: Geneva, Vienna, Paris, Luxembourg, even the Azores, but the choice fell upon New York City — a little United Nations itself! The Rockefeller family donated the ground of a former slaughterhouse near the East River, but during the construction of the headquarters, the United Nations worked at the Hunter College Campus where the press was installed in the swimming pool and the Security Council in the gymnasium (to the delight of the carousels). Later, they moved to Lake Success and, finally, to Turtle Bay, where the headquarters emerged. As the name, Lake Success, was an omen, we hope that Turtle Bay won't be worse than Kelen.

He was wrong. Unfortunately, the turtle symbolizes the United Nations today better than success does. With no executive powers and the membership bitterly divided, some skeptics say that it is the "Disunited Nations" and the Security Council is rather an "Insecurity Council". The new secretary-general, Peruvian Javier Perez de Cuellar, stated in his report on the work of the organization that unless the charter is enforced and implemented, and deals efficiently with dangerous situations, "the world will come perilously close to a new international anarchy." One of the favorable signs is the fact that many speakers commented positively on the secretary-general's recommendations on how to make the United Nations more capable of carrying out its primary function of collective action for peace and security.

The president of the current General Assembly is

Hungarian, Imre Hollai. This position is rotating among five continents, more precisely, five regional groups; this year it corresponds to East Europe. Why was Hollai elected by the region's (Soviet controlled) governments unanimously? Just look around East Europe. Poland is under martial law, Gen. Jaruzelski's SLD (no police) cruelly subjugates the people; in Romania, the corrupt and nepotistic Ceausescu — who made a national hero of Dracula-Vlad, who centuries ago became infamous for impaling Hungarians and Germans — brought the country to the brink of disaster; Czechoslovakia, today, is the poorest and most hopeless Soviet "white colony". East Germany is the strictest police-state of the Warsaw Pact; Bulgaria was put in the limelight of world attention when the Sofia secret service killed an exiled newsmen in West Markov, with an "umbrella-gun".

Considering all these facts, Hollai didn't have any serious competition, despite the fact that the Kadar regime's credentials were rejected or not approved for five years after the Soviet invasion of Hungary which crushed the 1956 revolution into blood. Then, 26 years ago, Hollai was already in the Hungarian mission in New York. Later, he was the head of Hungarian missions and delegations for about ten years. Educated and trained by the party, he is known for his "jovial character."

However, in spite of his long diplomatic experience, he made a few mistakes at the beginning of his presidency. In his address to the 37th General Assembly, he said positively that "peace in our time is no longer merely the hope of idealists but an urgent and immediate need," and later, he added in known for his "jovial character."

However, in spite of his long diplomatic experience, he made a few mistakes at the beginning of his presidency. In his address to the 37th General Assembly, he said positively that "peace in our time is no longer merely the hope of idealists but an urgent and immediate need," and later, he added in

another statement that "it is necessary to rededicate ourselves to peace and progress to a world without war."

But, in his first press conference, a correspondent asked him about the tragedies of Lebanon and Afghanistan and he answered that "there are two different things." When the correspondents were surprised, recalling that during the two years of Soviet occupation thousands of Afghan patriots were killed, Hollai repeated the discredited Soviet version, saying that these troops went into the country at the "request of the government". Who could really believe that Hafizullah Amu invited the Soviet military to invade his country and to kill him and assassinate his entire family? (Interfax, Pravda)

Today is Friday, Nov. 26th, the 330th day of 1982. There are 35 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1580 — Peace of Fleix ends seventh war of religion in France.

1690 — France's Louis XIV declares war on Holland.

1764 — Jesuit order is suppressed in France.

1812 — French Army meets disaster in retreating across Russia's Berezina River.

1896 — Russia discloses plan to seize Constantinople if Britain intervenes in Crete.

1949 — India adopts constitution as federal republic within British Commonwealth.

1967 — Death toll is put at 250 in floods in central Portugal.

1970 — Bolivian painter, disguised as priest, tries to kill Pope Paul in Manila, Philippines; but pope escaped injury.</p

Islam in perspective

What the Qur'an teaches

In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Beneficent. Beautiful life of this world has been made to seem for those who disbelieve: They scoff at the believers. But those who fear Allah shall be superior in rank to them on the Day of Resurrection. Allah bestows His bounties without measure on whom He will.

(The Cow, Al-Baqarah 2: 21)

Two types of men

This verse of the Qur'an tells us that this life of ours with its frivolities and petty concerns has been made in such a way as to seem beautiful to those who disbelieve in Allah. Thus they do not look beyond it; they have no values apart from those which it represents. But he who stops at the bounds of this life cannot visualize the higher concerns of the believers. He knows nothing of the limitless horizons to which the believer always looks.

A believer may look with contempt at all the luxuries of this present life, not because he is too weak to enjoy them or because he has a negative attitude which does not contribute to the development or the betterment of life. Indeed the believer knows that he has been put in charge of this earth, and that his responsibility is to build human civilization and to care for its steady development. He, nevertheless, wants from his life something much bigger and much more valuable than its superficial luxuries. He wants to establish a system which leads humanity to a standard much higher and much more respectable. His aim is to raise the divine flag above all mankind, so that

all human beings will look up to it and reach, with their eyes, a horizon far greater than their narrow little world in which are confined all those who are deprived of the noble aims and the higher concerns and the comprehensive outlook which only faith can provide.

The little men who are enslaved by the small aims of this world wonder at the believers as they realize that they have abandoned all the frivolities and luxuries, for which they themselves care so much, in order to attempt to achieve some great aims which do not concern them alone but concern humanity at large. They see the believers enduring great hardships and depriving themselves of all the pleasures that they, the small men, consider to be the real consummation of their lives for the sake of those aims which concern the faith, not the personalities, of the believers. As they look at them the small men simply cannot comprehend why the believers care for those higher aims. As it all seems to them incomprehensible the disbelievers simply scoff at those who have faith, ridicule their concepts and deride the line they

have chosen for themselves: "Beautiful the life of this world has been made to seem for those who disbelieve. They scoff at the believers."

The measure by which the disbelievers evaluate what is important and what is unimportant is simply the wrong measure. It is a measure which derives its values from the denial of faith, from ignorance. The right and true measure is that which is with Allah who makes it plain here to the believers that their measure with Him is far greater than that of those who disbelieve: "But those who fear Allah shall be superior in rank to them on the Day of Resurrection."

It is important for the believers to know their true value with Allah and their weight in His true and accurate measure. They will be able then to follow their own way undisturbed by the derision of those who scoff at them and care nothing for the values of the disbelievers. On the Day of Resurrection, when the final reckoning has been made they will find themselves, according to Allah, the most just of judges, far superior to them in rank. Allah stores for them what is far better and more abundant than what the disbelievers strive after. He gives it to them when He chooses, either in this life or in the life to come, or in both, as He determines to be best for them: "Allah bestows his bounties without measure on whom He will."

He it is who gives and provides. He bestows whatever He will, on whomever He chooses. There is simply no one and no power to stop Him giving without measure. He may give the dis-

believers the riches of this life, but He simply gives them that for a purpose of His own. They certainly carry no favor with Him to make Him give them anything whatsoever unless He chooses to do so. He also gives His chosen servants whatever He chooses to give them in this life and in the life to come. Whatever anyone is given comes from Him. The choice is His. What He chooses for His good servants is much better and higher in value.

These two types of people will always remain in this world. There will always be the believers who derive their measures, values and concepts from Allah and elevate themselves thereby high above the trivialities of this life and the concerns of the small people. They thus realize their humanity and become masters of life, not enslaved by it. On the other hand, there will always be the other type: those who find the life of this world beautiful and are enslaved by its values and its trivialities. Their self-indulgence pulls them down and they remain down. They simply cannot aspire to be on the same level as the believers.

The believers will always look from above at those who choose to remain at the bottom, unaffected by the luxuries and trivialities they enjoy. The irony is that these at the bottom think that they have been the privileged ones and that the believers are the deprived. They, therefore, may cast, at one time, a glance of pity on the believers and may, at another, ridicule them and scoff at them. Indeed they are the ones who deserve to be pitied, for they are indeed the eventual losers.

The beneficiaries of zakah-7: The sort of struggle

Last week we determined that one of the main purposes for which *zakah* is paid is to help the struggle for Allah's cause. We also determined that most schools of thought, including the main four, interpret the meaning of this struggle in terms of military action. In other words, "Allah's cause" means jihad in the lines followed by the companions of the Prophet. Jihad has, to have one aim, namely, to make Allah's word prevail.

Some people argue that this sort of warfare does not exist any more. They contend that the battles which have been taking place in the Muslim world are no longer Islamic. They are merely national or patriotic wars fought by certain groups of people against those who have launched an aggression on them or their land. Thus they are secular battles which has nothing to do with religion, and as such they cannot be included under "the struggle for Allah's cause." Hence, *zakah* cannot be paid aid of these battles.

Some people may subscribe to this point of view. The argument behind it, however, will be carefully examined. We cannot limit jihad to the type of battles the companions of the Prophet and the generals after them fought. Those who came as mounted in order to destroy the Islamic powers which resorted to violence in order to suppress Islam and prevent people from learning about Islam and spreading it. Those campaigns were unique in every regard to their objectives, code of conduct, effects and results. Those battles fought in order to liberate people from tyranny of dictators who claimed to have the right to rule over people and subdue them.

It, however, is not the only form of jihad. In later generations the Muslims fought against invasion forces such as the crusaders and the crusaders. They fought hard in order to repel the aggressors and protect their land, where Islam prevailed, from being run by the enemies of Islam. Thus the type of jihad was to expand the area of Islam while the other type was to preserve the area of Islam. We have to stress here that the in this latter instance acquires a special significance when it is the land of Islam. This is that it is the area or the territory where Islam is suppressed, as is the case in Muslim countries nowadays, cannot be fought in "Darul Islam" the defense of which is part of jihad. A Muslim may leave his

country, much as he loves it, if Islam is suppressed there, as the Prophet and his companions did when they left Makkah to establish the Islamic state of Madinah.

Jihad is perhaps most applicable in our time to any campaign to liberate any part of the Muslim land from being subjugated by a non-Islamic authority. If any authority, be it

Communist or capitalist, Eastern or Western, secular or religious, subjugates any portion of the Muslim land, imposing its own legislation to the exclusion of Islamic legislation, then to liberate this occupied land is a duty on its people and the neighboring Muslim people. It may become a duty of all Muslim if its liberation cannot be accomplished except through their combined effort. Thus to fight in order to liberate occupied Muslim land, such as Palestine, Kashmir, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Tashkend, Uzbekistan and Albania, to give a few examples, is part of jihad. If a campaign is organized in order to achieve the liberation of any such area in order to return it to Islamic rule then *zakah* can be spent in supporting such a campaign.

The level of spending is determined by three factors: the total amount of *zakah*, the needs of the liberation campaign (jihad), and the needs of other beneficiaries of *zakah*.

We have to stress here that not all wars fought or launched by people who have Islamic names can be termed as jihad or considered to contribute to Allah's cause. Any such campaign must have Islamic objectives such as "making Allah's word prevail" or defending Muslims and their land. If this spiritual aspect is removed from any campaign it becomes a secular campaign in which anybody may take part. Such a secular campaign cannot be labeled "struggle in Allah's cause." Not a penny of *zakah* money may be contributed to such a campaign.

Let us, by way of illustration, suppose that a group of Communists from Albania or Uzbekistan, both of which are Muslim territories, start a guerrilla war to liberate their territories from the domination of the Soviet Communists. Can we consider such a war as part of the struggle for the cause of Allah? Can we argue that since these Communists in Albania or Uzbekistan want to liberate a Muslim piece of land from the domination of foreigners then they should be supported with *zakah* money?

The answer is a definite NO. All Communists, Albanians, Russians or Arabs are the same from the Islamic point of view. Their

doctrine, outlook, tyranny, system of government, hostility to Islam and rejection of Allah are the same. How can we, then, distinguish between two enemies of Islam merely on the basis of nationality? The only war which may be supported by *zakah* is the one which aims at making the word of Islam prevail.

Islam does not glorify any war or fighting. Glory is given only to jihad, and jihad can only be for Allah's cause. If that cause is removed then all people are alike in their bravery and sacrifice. But whatever sacrifice is made for any cause other than the cause of Allah is meaningless from the Islamic point of view, and as such, it cannot be supported with *zakah* money.

A quick glance at the armies of most of the Muslim countries nowadays is enough to indicate that these armies care nothing for Islam. Many of them simply do not care for worship; no prayers are offered by the overwhelming majority of their soldiers. Many of their officers indulge in all sorts of forbidden practices. Their orientation is secular, and they only play the religious tune at the time of actual fighting in order to boost the morale of the soldiers.

The Prophet was once asked about those who fight because they are courageous, and those who fight out of their loyalty and those who fight in order to make certain pretences: which of them fight for Allah's cause? His answer was: "He who fights to make the word of Allah supreme fights for Allah's cause."

This is, then, the perfect criterion which determines which battles can be considered as jihad and may be helped with *zakah* money.

It is, perhaps, needless to say that any campaign to restore Islamic government in any Muslim area which has been taken over by people who impose their own philosophy of government, be that Socialist, Communist or capitalist, may and should be helped with *zakah* money. We have only first to determine that it is a serious campaign and that its objectives are clear and pure. These objectives should be the re-establishment of the Islamic system and the Muslim government. This campaign need not necessarily be a military one. Sometimes intellectual and social action may be sufficient if a certain degree of individual freedom and constitutional rights is guaranteed. *Zakah* may be spent to help such a campaign under the

heading "in Allah's way" or "struggle for Allah's cause."

A point needs to be clarified about this area of spending *zakah* money. An Islamic state does not rely on *zakah* only to raise and equip its army. Indeed, right from the early days of Islam the Muslim army could draw on the central budget of the Islamic state for its expenditure.

The defense budget of any state, in our modern times as well as in the past, has always been the major item of expenditure. This is the reason why only the general budget of the state can meet such expenditure. When we say that *zakah* may be spent for the military purposes of the Muslim state we do not mean that *zakah* could meet all these expenses. If *zakah* is supposed to provide the defense budget either its rate would have to be increased manifold, which no government can do because the rate of *zakah* is imposed by Allah, or defense would have taken up all *zakah* revenue. Thus *zakah* can only be utilized as a contribution which eases the burden of defense on the general budget.

Again, we do not need to wait until a perfect Islamic state has been established in order to spend this share of *zakah* on the campaigns, military or otherwise, this state launches. Many an effort which serves the cause of Islam may be helped under this heading without waiting for a central authority to sanction it. We may list by way of example the establishment of Islamic centers either abroad or in the Muslim countries themselves if such centers propagate the message of Islam and protect the Muslim youth against all sorts of deviation. The publication of Islamic books or periodicals which present the true image of Islam and answer any attack against it could also be part of jihad. Those who are employed for such purposes may also be paid from *zakah* because they contribute to jihad and help preserve the purity of the image of Islam as well as help spread it everywhere.

To help the advocates of Islam who are persecuted by its enemies, be they the external forces or local dictators, is perfectly legitimate under the heading of the "struggle for Allah's cause" because it helps such advocates of Islam to remain steadfast in their resistance of its enemies.

Next week, *Aws* will look at the eighth and final class of beneficiaries of *zakah*, namely, the wayfarer.

Our Dialogue

Bank interest and its uses

I read with great interest the questions answers on the above subject which are in *Arab News* of Oct. 22. The answers were given very clearly and should be most readers. In your last paragraph, however, you have asked the depositor to the interest earned on his deposit to the bank as it chooses. Don't you think we are at fault no matter how the bank uses such interest, since it is our deposit which is have earned it?

S. Caffor
136/13 Malay Street
Colombo 2
Sri Lanka

It was not my intention to advocate we should ask any bank to utilize the interest earned on our deposits in any way, for bad. The intention was to make every reader understand that maintaining a deposit account which earns interest, with any bank, cannot be sanctioned by Islam, regardless of we utilize that interest. Reading through the answer again, I think I detect how you did have formed such an impression, which is definitely not intended. Hence this indication is necessary. While it is useful to utilize the facilities offered by banks, Muslims must be extra careful so that they do not unwittingly commit something forbidden.

Any form of earning interest by merely depositing money with any institution is certainly forbidden in Islam. Hence, one must not keep his money with a bank in a deposit account which earns interest. Keeping the money in a current account is acceptable because no interest accrues on such an account. The argument that bank interest could be utilized for a good cause, such as helping the poor, is Islamically unacceptable. Allah tells us that He does not accept any offering which is not fair. Bank interest is certainly within the foul category of money. Hence to offer it for a good cause is a contradiction in terms. According to the Qur'an (verse 267 of Surah 2) our offerings should be of the best we have. As the Prophet says: "Allah is good and He accepts only that which is good."

Dress for prayers

In my country, Sri Lanka, nobody prays without a headcover such as a cap or a turban. But here we see even Arabs are not particular about this. Is that acceptable?

I.H. Tawfiq
P.O. Box: 6212
Riyadh

It is acceptable for a man to pray without a headcover, one is required to cover only that portion of his body which stretches from

the waistline down to the knee. Apart from this, there is no restriction on how we dress for prayers, although it is preferable to observe the traditions in one's community. Thus if traditions make it improper to appear in a certain way in the presence of one's elders then it would be a matter of propriety that one should not appear in that same way when one faces his Creator in prayers. Since traditions vary from one community to another, one cannot draw any line in this respect. Certainly wearing a headress in prayers does not have any religious significance, though it may have a traditional one.

Satisfying sexual urge

Q. Is masturbation forbidden in Islam? If so, what is the alternative for an unmarried man or one who is away from his wife?

H. Saif
P.O. Box: 970
Jeddah
A. Abdelsadek
P.O. Box: 1239
Riyadh

The only legitimate way of satisfying the natural sexual desire is marriage. Any other way is not acceptable, but there are varying degrees of prohibition. Islam is a practical religion. It does not provide theoretical answers to practical problems. It tries to

give always practical solutions. In a perfectly Muslim society one expects the average age of marriage to be much lower than in our modern societies. The fact remains that not all young men and women can marry early, and that most Muslims today live in societies which are not perfectly Islamic.

Dealing with this problem, the Prophet teaches us: "Young men, he who can afford it let him be married. Marriage helps you to lower down for eyes (meaning, not to cast indecent glances at women) and fortify yourselves (against the temptation to fall in sin). He who cannot afford marriage let him fast; for fasting gives him a degree of immunity."

This tradition of the Prophet is self-explanatory. Marriage should be the aim as early in life as possible. If one's circumstances do not help him get married, or if he is forced to be away from his wife, then the solution recommended by the Prophet is to fast as many days as necessary. Fasting reduces the intensity of the sexual urge in two ways: first, hunger has such an effect on one, and secondly, the fact that fasting is a form of worship serves as a constant reminder of Allah, thus helping one to be more conscious of Him.

The other thing one could do in such circumstances is to find something to occupy his time. Perhaps loneliness is the worst enemy of a single person. If he has always something to

do, in which he can be absorbed, then he has less chance to think of his sexual desire. The prohibition of masturbation is derived from the Qur'an. Allah describes the believers as those "who safeguard their chastity (not giving way to their desires) with any but their spouses or those whom they rightfully possess." (23: 5-6) This exception of one's wife has been interpreted by all scholars to include any method which may be employed for the satisfaction of the sexual desire. One has to say here, however, that if one fears that he is about to fall to temptation and commit adultery or fornication then masturbation becomes the lesser of the two evils. This can only be judged by the person himself who should always seek Allah's forgiveness if he is overcome by a difficult situation in which he finds himself.

Acting for someone else in Pilgrimage

Q. If someone is asked by a relative or a fellow pilgrim to throw the stones at Jamrahs on his behalf, should he first complete his own throwing at the three Jamrahs before he acts in the same way for his relative or friend? Or, is it possible that he takes one Jamrah at a time, throwing his seven stones first and then throwing the other seven for his fellow pil-

grim, before moving to the next Jamrah? M.M. Ali
P.O. Box 439
Jeddah

A. Both methods are acceptable though most scholars prefer that one should first finish throwing his stones at the three Jamrahs before he acts for his fellow pilgrim. This is because throwing the stones at the three jamrahs is one act. So it has to be completed before one does something else. But if one does it the other way round, it is acceptable and neither he nor the person who requested him to act for him or her need to do anything afresh.

Donation of one's eyes

Q. I want to donate my eyes to an eye bank after my death. Does Islam permit it? M. Abdulmajed
P.O. Box: 167/CC906
Jeddah

A. The simple answer is Yes. Islam does not permit any maltreatment of the body of a deceased person. It considers that to break a bone of a dead person is just like breaking the same bone if he was alive. Yet scholars have approved of donating one's organs if they could be used after his death to treat some patients. The purpose here is not to maltreat the deceased person but to secure a certain benefit.

Arab News Features

Commentary by Sayyid Qutb

Life of the Prophet - 86

A lesson in leadership

By Adil Salahi

The following day was a Friday and after the dawn prayers the Prophet consulted his companions in order to achieve a consensus of opinion on their plan of action. He told them that he had a dream the previous night. Long before he became a Prophet, every dream Muhammad saw in his sleep was realized in every single detail. This was one of the early signs of his prophethood. He said that he saw in his dream a few cows which belonged to him being slaughtered, and a little notch in the edge of his sword and that he has put his hand in a strong shield of armor. He said that he felt optimistic about his dream and that he interpreted it that the cows indicated that a few of his companions would be killed while the notch indicated that a member or his household would be killed. The shield of armor, he felt, was a reference to Madinah itself. He then suggested that they should stay put in Madinah and leave the Makkans where they had encamped. "If they stay there they will find that their position is an untenable one. If they attempt to force their way into Madinah we will fight them in its streets and alleys which we know far better than they, and they will be attacked with arrows and all sorts of missiles from rooftops."

Abdullah ibn Umar, a leading personality of Al-Khazraj, whom we have seen earlier speaking very harshly to the Prophet when he feared for his Jewish allies of the Qainuqa' tribe, supported the Prophet's view on this occasion. He said: "Messenger of Allah, before the advent of Islam we used to fight in Madinah. We would keep our women and children in our fortified homes giving them plenty of stones. We would also build shelters and fortifications to close the gaps between the outer buildings so that the whole city would be like a big fort. Women and children would throw stones and other missiles from rooftops while we fight in the streets and alleys. Our city is indeed a virgin. No enemy has ever tried to enter it but was defeated, and we have never gone out to meet an enemy outside without regretting it. Let them,

As Worthy, Abdul-Jabbar excel

Lakers shoot past Supersonics

NEW YORK, Nov. 25 (AP) — There are no surprises for the opposition when the Los Angeles Lakers take the court — everyone knows what's coming.

"Our game is the running game with lots of layups to go along with the inside game to Kareem," says coach Pat Riley.

But along with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the Lakers' renowned center, and the rest of the National Basketball Association championship team from last year, there's James Worthy this season.

Worthy, the Lakers' top draft pick, came off the bench to score a season-high 26 points to lead them over the Seattle Supersonics 111-93 Wednesday night.

"The way Worthy is playing makes it very hard to keep him on the bench," said Riley. "He's already a great player and is only going to get better."

Said Seattle coach Lenny Wilkins: "We didn't play with any enthusiasm. We're just not playing like we're having fun. It's very disappointing because in exhibition we had enthusiasm. You don't react right when you

In RAC Rally

Mikkola emerges tops

YORK, England, Nov. 25 (AP) — Hannu Mikkola of Finland won the Lombard RAC Motor Rally for the fourth time here Thursday and helped the Audi Quattro team clinch the World Manufacturers' championship.

Mikkola, 40, winner of four RAC events of the last five years, finished the five-day, 1,800-mile (2,880-kilometer) rally more than four minutes clear of second placed Michele Mouton of France, also driving an Audi.

Henri Toivonen of Finland, the 1980 winner, was third in an Opel Ascona, but Audi drivers dominated the rally taking four of the top 10 placings.

Mikkola dominated the 50th anniversary of Britain's toughest rally. He took the lead on Monday and was never headed. The Flying Finn was fastest on 27 of the 69 stages of the contest.

He said: "This fourth win is something special. Noboys has won four times before and I have done in three different cars—Toyota, Escort and now twice in the Audi."

Mikkola was credited with a time of eight hours, one minute, 46 seconds. Mouton clocked 8:06.03 with Toivonen timed at 8:06.12. Mouton, who was second in this year's world championship, drove brilliantly overnight to overhaul Toivonen and clinch second spot. The 30-year-old Frenchwoman, driving in only her second RAC rally, won seven of the last 11 stages.

Markku Alen, driving a Lancia, was the third Finn in the top four. Alen, who made an early surge and led the rally briefly, eventually

don't have intensity and enthusiasm. We've got to work harder."

Abdul-Jabbar scored 22 points and Jamaal Wilkes added 20 for the Lakers, while Lonnie Shelton and Jack Sikma paced the Sonics with 15 points each.

In other NBA action, it was Boston 104, Portland 95, Philadelphia 121, Indiana 105, Milwaukee 119, Utah 105, Kansas City 122, Detroit 112, Dallas 133, Chicago 127, Washington 106, Phoenix 93, San Diego 114, New Jersey 109 and Denver 129, San Antonio 123.

Celtics 104, Trail Blazers 95; Larry Bird scored 22 points and Cedric Maxwell 21 as Boston beat Portland for its sixth straight victory. The Celtics also had four other scorers in double figures as they built a 19-point lead early in the second half and breezed the rest of the way.

76ers 121, Pacers 106; Moses Malone scored 25 points and pulled down 15 rebounds and Julius Erving added 22 points as Philadelphia beat Indiana. The 76ers broke the game open with a 25-8 spurt in the

second quarter.

Bucks 119, Jazz 106; Marques Johnson scored a season-high 34 points and Sidney Moncrief added 24, leading Milwaukee over Utah. The score was tied five times early in the third quarter, but Junior Bridgeman came off the bench to score six points and fed Moncrief for a layup to help the Bucks open a lead after three periods.

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Nuggets 129, Spurs 123; Dan Issel scored a season-high 37 points and Alex English added 31 as Denver broke a two-game losing streak by defeating San Antonio.

Bullets 106, Suns 93; Frank Johnson scored 30 points and Greg Ballard added 23 as Washington built up an 18-point lead and coasted to an easy victory over Phoenix.

Mavericks 133, Bulls 127; Rolando Blackman scored a career-high 27 points, including a three-point play with 12 seconds left, to give the Dallas Mavericks a five win over the Chicago Bulls.

Kings 122, Pistons 112; Ray Williams and Larry Drew triggered a quick Kansas City getaway and led the Kings to victory over the Detroit Pistons.

76ers 121, Pacers 106; Moses Malone scored 25 points and pulled down 15 rebounds and Julius Erving added 22 points as Philadelphia beat Indiana. The 76ers broke the game open with a 2

With three nations engaged in keen contest

Asiad marks take a battering on the field

By John Crasto

Special to Arab News

NEW DELHI, Nov. 25 — Burly Bahadur Singh was skittish as a prancing colt Thursday. The Indian strongman was all joy as he said, "I am going to be a coach now. No more big internationals for me." His golden career in Asian Games athletics had hit a new high. He smashed the shot put record for what could be a thunderous farewell.

What a glorious opening day for athletics. Six Asian Games records in six finals. Expectations were certainly justified. The Asian athletic scene is on the cycle of progress, India, Japan and China shared the spoils, Japan going one better with an Asian record to boot.

Bahadur Singh is probably the most versatile thrower here. He won the silver in the Teheran Asiad, the gold at Bangkok. Thursday he surpassed the best of Iran's Jalal Kashmiri with an 18.53 at his last attempt. Truly a warmth of cheer shut out the cold. New Delhi air as Bahadur worked up speed for explosive release. His four attempts were the best in the field, the last beat the record of 18.04 meters.

If the Telco assistant sports officer, at 36, brought cheer to Indian fans, Chand Ram, an Indian soldier twelve years Bahadur's junior, set the pattern of success in the cold misty morn. He set a scorching pace from the outset in the 24 kilometer walk and finished 40 meters ahead of China's Chuntang Wang in an Asian Games record time of one hour, 29 minutes and 29 seconds.

The old record stood at 1:31:54.4 in the name of another Indian, Hakam Singh. What a wonderful effort from Chand Ram.

The Japanese women's quartet of Smiko Konishi, Hiroko Isozaki, Emi Akimoto and Junko, used the blind, backhand pass baton exchange at dazzling speed. That ensured for them a seven meters leeway at the finish in

the Asian record time of 45.13 seconds. Their superb showing beat the Asian mark by five-tenths of a second and the Asian Games record by 1.07 seconds.

Thailand, the record holders, finished second ahead of South Korea. Japanese pole-vaulter, Tomomi Takahashi, on the jumping arena alongside, broke the Asian mark as he soared to 5.30 meters to humble his teammate, Teruhisa Kamiya, and China's Cheog Zhang.

The 10,000 meters run was the most exciting event of the day. South Korea's Won Keun Park broke out of the bunch in the 24th lap and was two meters ahead till 10 meters from the finish line. When China's Guowei edged ahead Keun Park's spirit

crumbled. He faltered and was beaten by Japanese Keiji Sde. Zhang clocked 29 minutes, 37.56 seconds for a new Asian Games record.

That this is going to be a three-way contest was underlined when China's Xia Li won the discus with a throw of 57.24 meters for yet another Games record. Xiaoyan Xin bagged the second spot to enable China to finish with two golds two silver and a bronze against Japan's two gold and two silvers. India bagged two golds and a bronze through Balwinder Singh, who finished behind Kuwait's Muhammad Al Zinkawi in the shot put.

On the hockey front India had yet another big win. They trounced Oman 10-0 in a match which raised queries and conjectures.

"Who will win the gold medal, India or Pakistan? If India plays as they did against Oman then they will not."

The field goals were scarce till late in the day. Vineet Kumar recorded a hat-trick from penalty-corner conversions and Zafar Iqbal got through with a penalty stroke for India's first half goals.

Plucky Oman crowded their defense to throw into sharp focus the limited resources of India to break through. The field goals came later but there was not much to offer hope as Jagdeep hit home twice and Shahid three. Zafar Iqbal completely tally.

Bangladesh finished sixth in the last Asiad. They were always on the receiving end till Thursday.

Rhythmic Kuwaitis call the tune

By Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Nov. 25 — The Kuwaitis have rhythm in their blood. Their fans make melody in the stands, their players provide a concert on the pitch. They were exuberant all the more in Asian Games soccer Thursday. A 2-1 win over Iraq saw them finish Group 'B' winners.

Kuwait are the Gulf Champions. Like most Middle East teams they play the Brazilian type of soccer — controlled mobility with the sudden thrust. Skill counts so much here. Both Kuwait and Iraq displayed much proficiency in this department. But while the Arab teams paraded their wares Iraq prominently had their fires banked. Kuwait called the tune for major spells.

Iraq displayed only a brief show of force which sufficed. They registered a point when Ali Shihab reduced Kuwait's two-goal first-

half lead. These occasional spells of fire were enough to arrive at the conclusion that Iraq could be mighty rivals. But after Ali Shihab struck with typical suddenness they were back-pedalling all the while.

Kuwait scored two beautiful goals. Their mobility is tempered. Exercised to just that extent where they can break through. Iraq goalkeeper failed to grasp a free-kick shot cleanly. Like lightning Al Soayed was on the ball before the custodian could recover. He bad the ball home in a flash.

That goal was in the 36th. Two minutes later Al Anbari applied the finishing touches to a superb move straight from the middle. Anbari got the ball inside the circle and despatched it home in a flash. What was good about these Kuwaiti goals was that they were both crisp efforts.

Iraq showed up promisingly in the initial stanza. But then followed a spell of near inertia as Kuwait dictated terms. The Iraqis

opened up again midway through the third quarter with a couple of moves which were fast and coordinated. Their striking power was in evidence now. The goal they scored was a splendid instance of the suddenness with which they can strike. At one moment the ball was in midfield, the next it was in goal. Ali Shihab stretched out a tight left which zoomed past goalkeeper Jasen.

Iraq did not experience much opposition from South Yemen. They won 2-0, the goals coming from Naser Khan via a header from a throw-in, and a powerful volley from striker Ali Firozi.

Japan maintained their clean slate to finish Group 'D' winners. They upset South Korea 2-1 after the losers had landed the first blow. Siu Woo raised hopes of Korea's entry to the quarterfinals. But this was not to be. Hiroki Hara and Takeshi Okada scored thereafter to ensure Japan's success.

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the BUMBLEST of mumbles

The Snatch — Part II

By Alexandra Frits

Lillypop felt herself being roughly put down and when she opened her eyes she found herself in a huge nest.

She sat up straight on her shell just in time to see "Snatcher" pause to take off. Before she could plead with him to take her back, he had spread his wings and gracefully swept off into the blue.

A big teardrop began to fall down Lillypop's cheek. "What am I going to do?" she wept. "Who could possibly know where I am, up here, stuck on these cliffs. Oh! dear," she put her head on her arm and continued to weep.

Meanwhile, back at the waters edge, Deario along with the other Bumbles, were standing around discussing the horrible scene they had all witnessed. Poor Lillypop, being carried away. Usually any Bumble that was carried away, was never heard of or seen again.

Deario decided to waste no further time, so he raced up the beach to where Tilly Tosh the seahorse was waiting and hastily mounted him. "Home, Tilly Tosh, home to Mumbles, as fast as you can go please!"

Tilly Tosh could see the worried look on Deario's face, so he did not ask any questions, just headed for the sea and raced as fast as he could, over the waves, safely back to Mumbles, where the Bumbles lived.

As they approached Mumbles Deario spotted Toggier fishing near Mumbles Point. Deario motioned Tilly Tosh to head over to where Toggier was.

"Toggier, how pleased I am to see you, you'll never guess what has happened?" said Deario, quite out of breath.

Toggier who was never any good at guessing, asked, "What is it Deario? you look as if you've seen a monster."

Deario hastily explained the terrible experience that had happened at Langland. By the time he had finished the story, all the other Bumbles were coming in on their seahorses and starting to spread the word that Lillypop had been carried off by Snatcher.

"We must try and do something," Deario said.

"Yes, I agree," replied Toggier, "but where do we begin to look?"

"We can't ask the Wizard of Oystermouth Castle for help this time, as he is



away in the Black Mountains and Dooley the Dragon is with him," answered Deario.

"The problem is, where exactly has Snatcher taken Lillypop?" Toggier said thoughtfully.

"It could be a hundred places," Deario sighed.

Suddenly he had a brilliant idea. "The very person to help us is Mr. Sun. High up there he can see everything," Deario said with hope in his voice.

"Very good idea, you are clever Deario," replied Toggier.

So Deario and Toggier stood side by side

Illustrations by Nicolas Dumaine

trying to attract Mr. Sun's attention, but Mr. Sun was very busy that day, shining down in all his glory, as he scanned over Mumbles to make sure everyone was enjoying his warmth.

Suddenly he noticed the two Bumbles waving at him and sensing an urgency in their waves, concentrated on beaming down on them.

"Good day to you Deario and Toggier, are you troubled?" Mr. Sun asked.

Quickly Deario explained the situation and Mr. Sun immediately sprang into action, exploring every nook and cranny of the area with his sun rays, but to no avail.

Suddenly, high up on a sheer cliff face he spotted a light reflecting his sunshine; and when Mr. Sun homed in on it he was amazed to see Lillypop cleverly holding up her seashell surf board, with its mother of pearl face to catch the rays of the sun hoping to attract attention to herself, stuck high up in the seagull's nest.

Mr. Sun reported back to Deario and Toggier exactly where Lillypop was, high up on the cliffs in Snatcher's nest.

"Right," Deario said with authority in his voice, "Tilly Tosh, off we go to the cliffs."

So he and Toggier held on tightly to Tilly Tosh the seahorse and off they raced through the waves to the base of the cliffs, below Snatcher's nest.

Soon all three of them were looking up the cliff face to see Lillypop peering down at them and waving, but she was too high up to make herself heard.

Deario pondered how to reach her as the nest was cleverly built high up on a sheer rock face. It rested in a niche, with no footholds anywhere to be seen.

Toggier scratched his head and wondered how they could get up so high to rescue Lillypop. Mr. Sun felt helpless watching the scene way down below him.

(To be continued next Friday)

Arabian cuisine: egg dishes

JEDDAH — These are selections from the forthcoming book, *Arabian Cuisine*, by Anne Marie Weiss-Armush:

Egg dishes are popular throughout the Middle East. Because eggs are usually on hand and are quick and easy to prepare, they are an obvious choice for the unexpected hungry visitor who arrives between meals when no other dishes are ready.

The following recipes feature eggs in combination with yogurt or cream:

Baked eggs with yogurt

Beid maslou' ma leban (Syria)

(Serves 1)

2 eggs, hard boiled and coarsely chopped

1 small tomato, coarsely chopped

2 green onions, chopped

½ cup yogurt

salt

black pepper

1 tablespoon olive oil

Preparation:

1. Layer the eggs, tomato and onions in a shallow soup plate.

2. Pour on the yogurt and season with salt

and black pepper. Stir to mix.

3. Drizzle the olive oil on top, and scoop up with pieces of Arabic bread.

Variation:

* Squeeze fresh lemon juice over dish along with the olive oil.

Eggs poached in yogurt

Beid magali bil leban (Syria)

1 tablespoon cornstarch

1 cup water

3 cups yogurt

½ teaspoon Salt

eggs (as required)

salt

black pepper

Preparation:

1. In a medium large saucepan, dissolve the cornstarch in water. Stir in the yogurt and salt.

2. Place the saucepan over medium-low heat and bring to the boil, stirring in only one direction. Continue cooking for 5 minutes, stirring frequently.

3. Gently break the eggs into the yogurt thr

at a time and sprinkle lightly with salt and

black pepper. Poach until done as desired. Serve with Arabic bread and a few spoonfuls of yogurt.

4. Repeat as many times as necessary until all have been served. Any excess yogurt may be refrigerated for later use, served as a drink, or used for yogurt drink.

Variation:

* Sauté a clove of garlic and a few leaves of fresh mint (or 2 teaspoons dried mint) in a bit of butter. Blend into the yogurt sauce before dropping in the eggs.

Baked eggs with cream

Beid bil crema (Lebanon)

1 cup cream

1 teaspoon salt

8 eggs

salt

black pepper

Preparation:

1. Heat the cream, stirring in the salt.

2. Pour into an attractive oven casserole and break the eggs into the cream. Sprinkle with salt and black pepper.

3. Bake at 350°F for 10 minutes, or as long as desired.

At Hofuf Covered Market

The fragrance of frankincense

By Jean Grant
Al-Khobar Bureau

HOFUF — Jaded with shopping in supermarkets where you've seen it all so many times before? Want to offer some seasonal gifts that will bring pleasure today as they did fully 2000 years ago? Then head for the Hofuf Covered Market and search along its dark covered alleys for the aromatic incenses of frankincense and myrrh.

The suq, called Al Qaisariyah or Suq Al Khamis, is the old part of this quickly modernizing oasis city. Behind the row of arches which stretch along its long exterior arcade are the stalls of the herb, grain and spice merchants. Here Bedouin women sell the quilted, embroidered and crocheted skull-caps called *tayyibah* worn underneath the *ghutra*. Expatriates, townpeople and Bedouin in for their weekly shopping jostle each other in the shaded arcade. But it's not here, but inside the suq proper, that you will find the incense for sale.

To get to the incense stalls, pass the foot-wear emporia at the entrance to the suq where the handsome traditional sandals called *za'far* are sold. A few steps more and you are in the ancient central passageway. The bush is refuge from the roaring cars and beeping horns of the modern city outside. Sunbeams dance down dusty shafts of light from the openings in the beamed roof overhead. Strings of electric light bulbs dangle from the roof overhead to light up their merchandise. At the dry goods stalls which come next, you may catch a glimpse of a boy heaving with pride as he tries on his very first red-and-white checkered *ghutra*. Don't be tempted by the antique shop where weavings, jewelry, daggers and crafts might lure you away from your objective. You have more aromatic pursuits in mind today. Just beyond on the left you will find the incense shop of Abdulla H. Al-Khawaja, the first of several shops devoted to the pleasures of the sense of smell.

The frankincense, called *haban*, looks like white raisins; myrrh, whose name is derived from the Arabic word *maran* meaning "bitter," resembles small dates. "Foreigners wonder what all this is," says Saeed, Abdullah's son and manager of the minuscule shop. He gestures to the mounds of sandalwood chips and the tear-shaped globules in front of him. "But when we smell it, they like it."

Saeed lights a round of charcoal with a match, places it on the *maakhah* or incense burner. He leans back as the charcoal catches fire, crackles and smokes. Blowing softly on the charcoal, he drops a globule of hard frankincense on the glowing charcoal. It burns with a bright white flame: a thin plume of smoke ascends and a balsamic fragrance spreads throughout the tiny shop.

After a few quick whiffs, he removes the frankincense and puts a lump of myrrh on to burn. It has, by comparison, an acrid smell. Frankincense, said Saeed, is still used in Arabia to celebrate the birth of a child. "When my son Mustapha was born three months ago, we had a big bag full of incense."

If you have incense to burn, you will need a *maakhah*. Most of those in the Hofuf incense stalls are the shiny modern metal ones from Japan and Syria. Saeed manages to produce a heavy wooden burner in poor condition. The



(Photo by Jean Grant)

INCENSE STORE: The Abdulla Al-Khawaja incense store at the Hofuf Covered Market.

led Sharif Haddadin or Blacksmith in the Sun.

Suddenly you are outside again in the sun-light in the area known as the women's suq. Here women bargain with good humor and energy as they proffer *abeyas*, *henna* and tribal jewelry. One shopper, a traditional camel hide cradle slung over her shoulder, negotiates shrilly for a new *veil*. Other saleswomen have their jewelry on

display in front of them in Danish butter cookie tins. Further on, others sell balls of wool. When there are no customers around, they continue carding the wool. Two seated on the ground with hunks of tawny fleece in front of them spin their scraps into yarn on a simple wooden spindle with crossed pieces. A townswoman comes along to buy some of the balls of black, grey and white homespun. She bargains hard but ineffectually and leaves empty-handed.

From the end of the street comes the tantalizing aroma of freshly baked bread. Abdul Aziz the baker is hard at work. With a blue-and-white gingham apron encircling his expansive waist, he bakes the flat round loaves, one by one, over the traditional wood fire. Every now and then he tosses wood into the fire that burns at the bottom of his hiveshaped oven. This isn't the ordinary mass-produced white circles of Arabic bread but earth brownish red variety.

From a shelf at the rear of his shop, Abdul Aziz takes one of the mounds of dough each of which looks like a massive bun. Deflly he slaps it from hand to hand, moving faster and faster, then flips it over a small pillow with which he sticks the dough onto the oven's hot iron sides. In a few moments the bread is ready to eat, but before Abdul Aziz wraps it in newspaper for his customer to take away, he scatters a few poppy seeds on top. Happily the customer carries off the stuff of life, still warm from the oven.

To Prime's wife

Country comes first, husband second

By Katharine Whitehorn

among Protestants — were it not that loyalty is called on all the time if there is any suggestion that you might be disloyal to your political party or trade union or even, though this isn't so often put into words, your own class.

But the loyalty of women is more straightforward: "He's my man and I'm sticking by him" say countless women whose husbands have just been caught napping over a wall or a bagful of borrowed diamonds and are asking for 87 other cases to be taken into consideration by the court.

When we're talking about the wives of run-of-the-mill professional criminals, I must say I have a certain sympathy for them: they are married to the job like the wives of doctors or lighthouse keepers, and it would be scarcely sensible for them to throw up their hands in astounded horror.

Less excellency is the pose of the amazed Mum, who when a thoroughly no good son is pulled in, says that it's all a slander and he's a good boy, just a bit wild at times.

I always want to take such a woman by her shoulder and shake her: doesn't she know what she's brought him up to be like? Does she simply not care that he and his mates have put a perfectly fit policeman in a wheelchair for life? Or is she so obtuse that so long as he's pleasant to her (well, reasonably) she thinks that's all that matters?

Family feeling may be a fine thing; but it

doesn't really let you off wondering if Dad

really should be running an extermination camp, or your husband should be engaged in wrecking young lives with heroin.

If Rhona Prime's strong face is anything to go by, if her measured remarks, all passion spent, give any sort of indication of the woman she is, I would expect that this is not the end between her and Prime; I would not be surprised if she visits him in prison till the end of his sentence and is in no sense denying whatever they had together.

In *The Third Man*, all those years ago, the girl who knew perfectly well that Harry Lime's dud penicillin was killing children still lashes out at Holly, the man who is turning her in: "I don't understand you," she says. "I never want to see him again but I'd never do anything to hurt him."

That struck me even at the time as exactly the wrong way round. If your man is destroying other people then you have to stop him; but if you can still stay around, and face him when you've done it, and offer anything that he feels he can still take, then that truly is love.

Not many, I fancy, can sort matters out so

clearly — and not many of us, thank heaven,

are actually married to a spy. But here was one woman who knew that loving your hus-

band is not, and never has been, a substitute

for knowing right from wrong.

Fritters and oyster soup

By Fu Pei-Mei

TAIPEI — Here is a Chinese dish:

SMILY WILY

TIT FOR TAT

THE SPACERS

IMPRESSIONS



ANIMAL CHATTER



Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake



FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1982

RIES
Mar. 21 to Apr. 19
This is a wonderful time for avel and romance, but ward midnight overedness could make you mewhat cranky.

LIBRUS
Apr. 20 to May 20
You'll need time alone to ake the most of the new as that come now. Luck is th you in financial matters.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
Socially, you're popular and well received. You have a loved one with whom you can be open, so speak clearly from the heart.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
Cleverness, efficiency and originality combine to bring you career successes today. Make the most of opportunity.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug. 22)
You'll have exciting times traveling and will meet with romance. In the late evening don't spoil a good thing by overindulging.

VERGO

You'll be proud of what you do to make home more attractive. Invite others over to appreciate the results of your efforts.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Others find you witty and charming. Short trips lead to new friendships and romance. A career idea needs further thought.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
While socializing, you may meet with new work opportunities. New ideas you have will make money! A co-worker wants your company.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
This is a very favorable time romantically and you should make the most of it! Leisure-time activities should be most fulfilling.

CAPRICORN

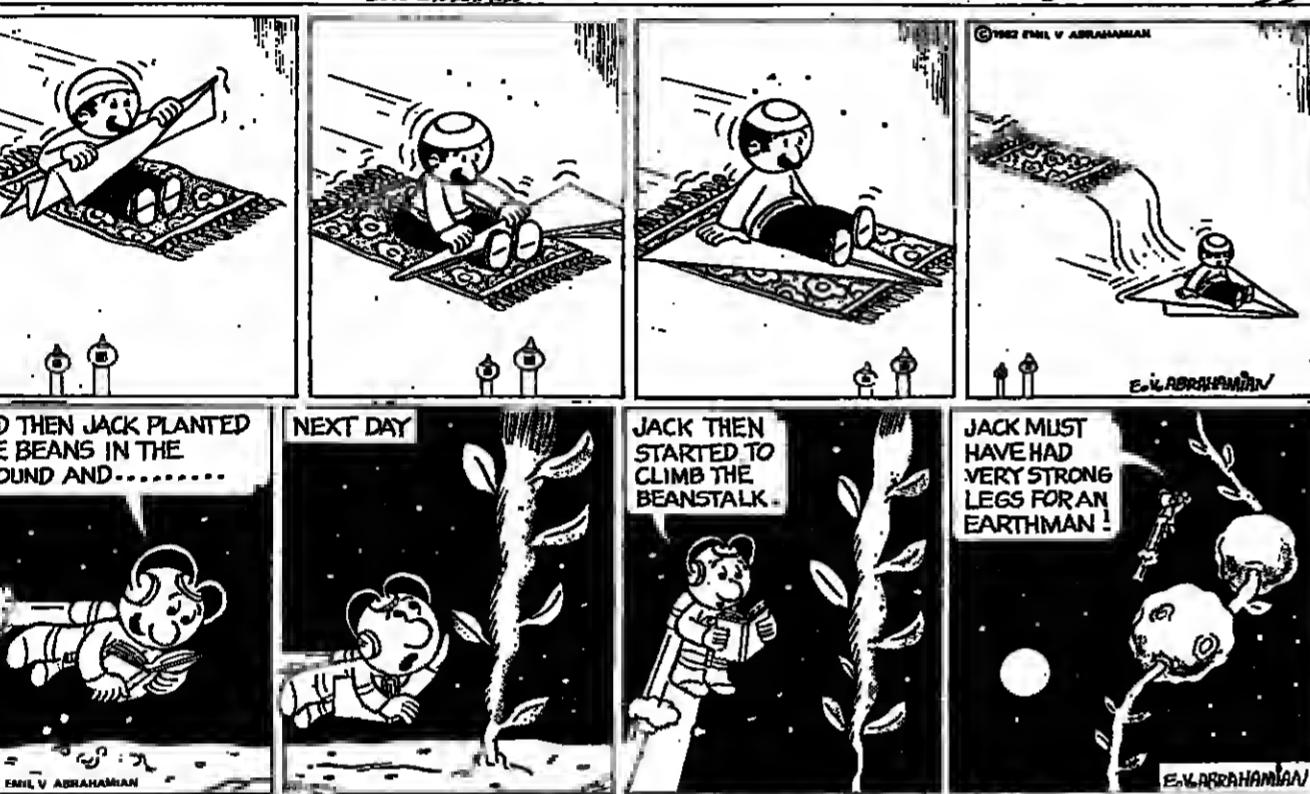
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Your castle is your home and today you'll enjoy putting around the house. Spending time alone with a loved one enhances togetherness.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Others find you witty and charming. Short trips lead to new friendships and romance. A career idea needs further thought.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 to Mar. 20)
You'll meet with career opportunity and will find new ways to increase income. A romantic introduction is possible.



AND THEN JACK PLANTED THE BEANS IN THE GROUND AND.....

NEXT DAY

JACK THEN STARTED TO CLIMB THE BEANSTALK.

JACK MUST HAVE HAD VERY STRONG LEGS FOR AN EARTHMAN!

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SPACE SHOTS



SPACE LOG: THERE IS NO AIR, NO WIND AND NO MOISTURE ON THE MOON. TEMPERATURE RANGES FROM 243° DURING THE TWO-WEEK DAY TO 279° BELOW ZERO IN THE NIGHT.

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MY SYMPATHY TO YOUR SICK CAT AND...ER...TO YOU TOO!

arab news Calendar

TV Programs

SAUDI ARABIA

8:00 Open House
- Friday Talk
- Cartoons
- Open Sesame
- House Interview
- Religious Program
- Quran
- Quran, Stories Live
- The Country of My Nation
- Hour Wa Hidaya
- Events in a Week
- Children's Series (Dubbed)
- Cartoons
- Arabic Series
- Arabic Program
- 60th Anniversary of the United Nations
- Sheikh Sharqi
- 7:00 English News
- 7:15 Knowledge and Faith
- Quran
- 9:30 Arabic News
- Program Review
- Song
- Party Songs
- Short Comedy
- Weekly Islamic Series
- News Summary
- Cartoon

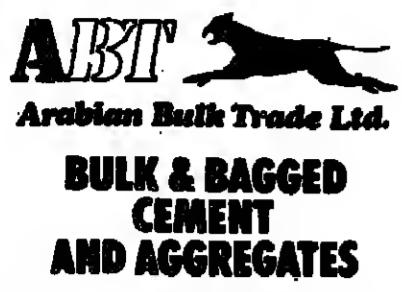
Bahrain Channel 4

10:00 News
4:00 Movie
5:00 Soccer

DUBAI Channel 10

10:00 Open House

DUBAI Channel 10



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Peking responds to Soviet overture

PEKING, Nov. 25 (AP) — Communist China, responding to new Soviet leader Yuri Andropov's overtures for better relations, called on Moscow Thursday to make new efforts to remove "obstacles" to improvements.

In a speech Monday, Andropov, the Soviet Communist Party chief, referred to "our great neighbor, the People's Republic of China," and said the Soviets emphasized "common sense... the need to overcome the inertia of prejudices" and a "desire to look ahead."

He said the Socialist countries, including China, should have "respect for each other's legitimate interests and common concern for the interests of socialism and peace."

Asked about Andropov's speech, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "we noted the statement by Yuri Andropov on Sino-Soviet relations. 'We hope to see the new Soviet leadership make new efforts in eliminating the obstacles hindering the normalization of relations between the two countries."

Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang said last week China was menaced by Soviet forces on its border, the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and Soviet support for Vietnamese intervention in Cambodia.

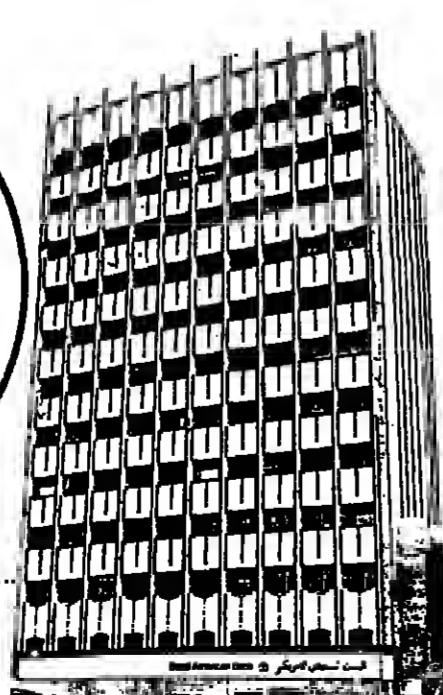
Last month, Chinese and Soviet vice foreign ministers met in Peking in the highest-level consultations since China broke off normalization talks after the 1979 Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. The Chinese have said another round is to be held in Moscow.

Meanwhile, Hanoi and the pro-Vietnamese Phnom Penh regime have in effect just issued a warning to Moscow and Peking that they will not accept any possible future Sino-Soviet deals over their future. This is the interpretation of observers in Paris of the hint which appeared in Hanoi's Nov. 23 communiqué following a visit to Vietnam by a group of Cambodian members of parliament.

In a phrase which appeared to be routine, the Cambodian delegation led by Chea Sim, president of the National Assembly, said that it "highly appreciated Vietnam's foreign policy based on the principles of proletarian internationalism, strict respect of territorial sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs."

This formula is partly inspired by the five principles of co-existence used by Hanoi to attack the "guilty maneuvers of imperialism." But this time it appears to be directed less against Washington than Peking and Moscow.

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Hungry world can't afford arms, Karamanlis says

PARIS, Nov. 25 (AP) — Greek President Constantine Karamanlis told special UNESCO conference Thursday that humanity appears to have lost its way, sailing like a ship without a compass. He said confusion and moral and spiritual anarchy that prevail in the world today take on such dimensions that "one has the impression we are seeking our own destruction."

As examples to illustrate his point, Karamanlis cited the danger of nuclear war and what he saw as an apathetic response to it. He said nations talk daily about disarmament and yet spend more than \$500 billion to develop weapons while three-quarters of the world's population is hungry or underfed.

Karamanlis referred to the inequality between the industrialized nations and the developing countries, which he said was taking on explosive proportions. "At some point the poor will join together against the rich as a result of which the differences between North and South will become very acute," he said. "And under the pressure of these differences the rivalry between East and West will be lessened."

Karamanlis said the rivalry could be lessened because both superpowers know a nuclear war between them is inconceivable and any conqueror of the world could not govern it.

Speaking at a 158-nation conference of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Greek president said he realized he was addressing a group that "is seeking a cure for the crisis we are going through with the most effective medicine — the promotion of culture and the projection through education of those values that will extricate us from our present impasse."

The United States and Switzerland expressed concern that human rights programs are taking a back seat to other issues. "We are



Constantine Karamanlis

concerned that the priority that UNESCO has traditionally assigned to human rights appears to have been abandoned," said the U.S. Permanent Representative, Jean S. Gerard. "Human rights now come last instead of first" in the title of the program.

Mrs. Gerard said Wednesday many regimes often subordinate individual rights to economic and social development and "this often serves as a pretext for repression of individual liberties."

Switzerland also criticized the chapter on human rights, drawing an unusual rebuke from U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Director General Amadou Mahtar Mbow of Senegal, who accused the Swiss delegation of a lack of objectivity.

Ordinarily, the director-general does not intervene in the debate until it is concluded. He did not speak after Mrs. Gerard finished, but there were several conciliatory passages in her speech.

Swiss delegation head Ernesto Thalmann said the concept of people's rights as outlined in the document might diminish the idea of individual rights. He also said UNESCO was declining in popularity in his country because of its involvement in "sterile controversies."

On communications, also expected to be a controversial subject in the debate, Mrs. Gerard said UNESCO must promote the free flow of information "recognizing that barriers are often imposed by the state itself."

The morning session began with a speech from Mbow in which he catalogued the major problems in the world today and presented UNESCO's program to deal with some of the more serious issues.

He said the arms race was the most pressing factor on the world scene today and deplored the billions of dollars and human resources invested in producing weapons while millions remained illiterate and without access to good medical care.

Reagan tours Latin, Central America next week

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25 (R) — President Ronald Reagan travels to Latin America next week to support what his administration sees as a trend toward democracy in the region, and to discuss economic problems. Reagan begins his five-day trip on Tuesday in Brazil, the area's largest country, where elections were held recently as part of the military government's democratic "about-a" (opening) plan.

War of words

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 25 (R) — U.N. delegates spent 45 minutes arguing about whether news on disarmament should be truthful, authentic or exact — and then decided that accurate was the word they were looking for.

The argument centered on how to amend a U.S. proposal aimed at "facilitating the flow of information on disarmament" with the Soviet delegate saying in Russian the information should be "truthful" or "authentic."

A French representative pointed out however that "authentique" meant "coming from official sources" which was not how the public should be informed of disarmament. Costa Rica's delegate agreed, and added in Spanish that "exact" filled the bill — until Egypt's representative asked how to translate it into Arabic.

Nigeria's suggestion of the English word "accurate" was then passed by 42 votes to two, with 11 abstentions.

Another stop will be in Colombia, a long-established democracy in a region where the military and landed oligarchies are usually held power. He will also meet the leaders of four small nations in Central America, where his administration supports efforts to present a democratic front in opposition to leftist-ruled Nicaragua.

His talks will take place in Costa Rica, a long-established democracy, and in Honduras which recently ended military rule by electing a civilian government. While in Costa Rica, Reagan will meet President Alvaro Magana of El Salvador. The United States has been providing El Salvador with military and economic aid to help what it perceives as a belligerent democracy to withstand leftist insurgency.

In Honduras, the democratic theme of the trip will be strained when Reagan meets Guatemala's president, Gen. Efraim Rios Montt, who came to power in an army-backed coup last March.

The administration would like to aid Guatemala in fighting insurgency, but serious human rights problems remain. This week a private American watch group accused the Guatemalan government of presiding over a counter-insurgency campaign in which Indian peasants were massacred.

The Carter administration cut off arms sales to Guatemala in 1977, citing human rights abuses. Any move to restore aid now would face strong criticism in the U.S. Congress. U.S. officials said the meeting with Gen. Rios Montt was mainly to encourage him to set a date for elections.

Reagan's trip is seen in part as a move to mend relations with Latin America, strained by U.S. support for Britain in its Falkland Islands conflict with Argentina this year. To further this effort, Washington recently backed Argentine-sponsored resolutions on the British-governed South Atlantic islands

French Falklands stance explained

PARIS, Nov. 25 (AFP) — France has never recognized British sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, President Francois Mitterrand said Thursday, in an interview with the liberal evening newspaper *Le Monde*.

The interview followed a storm in Britain last week when it was learned that an Argentine Navy supply ship had left the French Atlantic port of Saint Nazaire with five Super Etendard planes and 10 Exocet missiles. Two British vessels were sunk by Exocets during the Falklands War.

France announced last Aug. 10 that it had ended the arms embargo clamped on Argentina when hostilities erupted in the South Atlantic. President Mitterrand explained in the interview that France abstained from voting.

2 balloonists seek altitude record

LONDON, Nov. 25 (AP) — Two professional hot air balloonists say they plan to soar "to the edge of space," to set a new altitude record for hot-air balloons next May.

"With any luck we'll reach an altitude of 70,000 to 80,000 feet (21,336 to 24,384 meters) but we could go higher," pilot Mike Kendrick, 35-year-old director of lighter than air, Britain's largest hot air balloon operator, said at a Royal Aeronautical Society press conference Wednesday.

"The trip should take from two to four hours, depending on conditions. We hope to cross the width of England and splash down in the English Channel," added pilot Per Lindstrand, a 34-year-old Swedish aviation engineer and president of Giot Balloons, a hot air balloon design and manufacturing

in both the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS).

Latin America has been badly hit by world recession and faces formidable problems due to the collapse of export markets, soaring oil import costs and huge external debts. Brazil alone owes commercial banks nearly \$50 billion. Reagan's administration has stressed the need for new financing while the region's economies were brought under controls.

Secretary of State George Shultz told the OAS last week: "borrowers must realize their responsibilities. And lenders should recognize that stabilization programs will be more likely to succeed if accompanied by net flows of new money."

"Reagan was also expected to discuss his Caribbean aid and trade plan during the Central American portion of his trip. The plan provides economic aid to El Salvador and to financial troubled Costa Rica. But a crucial provision under which exports from the region would get duty-free entry into the United States faces opposition from a Congress increasingly inclined to protectionism."

In its Central American policy Washington is twinning its aim of economic revival with a political effort to isolate leftist-ruled Nicaragua, which it sees as a major threat to stability in the region.

30-year-long play

LONDON, Nov. 25 (AFP) — Agatha Christie's play *The Mousetrap* celebrates its 30th anniversary and 12,483rd performance in London's West End Thursday.

The World's longest-running play starts with a mysterious shot in the dark, and ends with the unmasking of the killer among guests in a snowbound inn. Since it opened on Nov. 25 in London, the play has been seen by some five million people.

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